



*American*  
**HERITAGE**

*American*  
*Camp*

*American*  
**TRADITION**

*American*  
*Allegiance*

*American*  
**REVOLUTION**

# 2016 OWNER'S MANUAL

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**IMPORTANT - PLEASE READ:** Product information, photography and illustrations included in this manual were as accurate as possible at the time of publication. Materials, design, and specifications are subject to change without notice. American Coach has designed its recreational vehicles for a variety of customer uses. Each vehicle features optimal seating, sleeping, storage, and fluid capacities. The user is responsible for selecting the proper combination of loads (i.e. occupants, equipment, fluids, cargo, etc.) to ensure that the vehicle's weight capacities are not exceeded.

Manufacturing brands of Allied Recreation Group, Inc. include: American Coach, Fleetwood RV, Holiday Rambler & Monaco



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# IMPORTANT NOTICES

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Please pay close attention to these statements while you read this Owner's Manual. In this manual, statements preceded by the following words are of special significance:



## DANGER

Indicates an imminently hazardous situation that, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.



## WARNING

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.



## CAUTION

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.

## CAUTION

Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in damage to the component or vehicle.



## NOTE

*Indicates points of particular interest for more efficient and convenient operation.*

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# INTRODUCTION

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Welcome to the recreational vehicle lifestyle and the growing family of motor home owners. We sincerely thank you for choosing an American Coach motor home!



## NOTE

*This manual describes many features of your RV and includes some instructions for its safe use. This manual, including photographs and illustrations, is of a general nature only. Some equipment and features described or shown in this manual may be optional or because of the continuous program of product change conducted by American Coach, it is possible that recent product changes may not be included.*



## NOTE

*Throughout this manual the term "RV" represents a "Recreational Vehicle" as defined by the NFPA 1192. This includes motor homes, fifth wheel trailers, travel trailers, camping trailers, recreational park trailers, and truck campers.*



## WARNING

Failure to follow proper procedures or install proper equipment can result in property damage, injury and/or death.

Your motor home has been designed to provide you with years of carefree, pleasant traveling and vacationing. It conforms with, or exceeds, applicable Recreational Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA), *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)*, *Canadian Standards Association (CSA)* (units built for Canada only), *Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS)*, *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)* and *California Air Resources Board (CARB)* regulations. The seal attached just outside the entry door indicates compliance with RVIA, NFPA or CSA standards.

Like all equipment, your motor home will require care and regular maintenance in order to deliver maximum value and performance. The dealer will give you basic operating and maintenance instructions. However, supplement this by reading all instructional material(s) furnished with the motor home in the ***Owner's Information Package*** and the motor home ***Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual***. This information outlines important areas of operation and maintenance for you to follow for safe, trouble-free service from your motor home. Study these materials carefully. A good working knowledge of your motor home and how to care for it will help you enjoy many miles and years of recreational living.



## Introduction

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If you have any questions regarding operation, maintenance, or service, please contact your dealer immediately for assistance. Your dealer's Service or Sales Department will handle any normal problems which might occur.

Some equipment and features described or shown in this manual may be optional or not available on some models.

Because of the continuous program of product improvement conducted by Allied Recreation Group, it is possible that recent product changes may not be included in this manual. Specifications may change without notice. Product information, illustrations and photography included in this Owner's Manual were as accurate as possible at the time of publication, and are representative of function and may or may not be specific in their depiction of actual equipment, fabrics, interior or exterior decor or design options as installed on or in your recreational vehicle.

The instructions included in this manual are intended as a guide, and in no respect extend the responsibilities of the manufacturing subsidiary, parent company or affiliates beyond the standard written warranty as presented in this manual.

American Coach has designed its recreational vehicles to provide a variety of uses for its customers. Each vehicle features optimal seating, sleeping, storage and fluid capacities. The user is responsible for selecting the proper combination of loads to ensure that the recreational vehicle's capacities are not exceeded.

## INSPECT AND MAINTAIN

Follow a consistent schedule of inspection and maintenance for your motor home. Your continuing safety and comfort depend on it. This manual includes a section outlining maintenance intervals. If you follow the maintenance guidelines, you will minimize the possibility of failure of any important system or part of your

motor home.

## PLANNING AND PREPARATION

Each year millions of Americans embark on trips using some type of recreational vehicle. Proper planning of your trip will ensure a pleasurable experience. A thorough knowledge of your RV is important if you are going to get the most out of the convenience and safety items built into your motor home. Be as familiar with it as you are with your personal car or truck. If you have trouble or have questions, please consult your dealer.

## OWNER'S INFORMATION PACKAGE

This package contains valuable documents about your motor home and its equipment components and systems. This *Owner's Manual* and the *Chassis Operator's Manual* are in the package. Since this manual does not cover every possible detail of equipment and options installed on or in your motor home, there are booklets and instructional material in the package that will help you safely operate, maintain and troubleshoot those items. ***Be sure you read all this information and understand the safety and operating instructions included in the package.*** Additionally, you must follow all maintenance instructions to insure full warranty coverage. If you decide to sell or trade your motor home, be sure the new owner receives the information in this package.

### NOTE

If your **Owner's Information Package** does not contain these items, even if you purchased your motor home "used," please call or write Allied Recreation Group and request the desired or missing information.

**American Coach Owner Relations**  
**1010 Commerce Drive**  
**Decatur, Indiana 46733**  
**1-800-435-7345**

## CHASSIS AND VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION

Several numbers are used to identify the vehicle and components used on the vehicle.

The **V.I.N.** or *Vehicle Identification Number* is assigned by the chassis manufacturer and is the number used for vehicle registration. The V.I.N. is found on the Federal Certification Tag attached on the interior wall behind the driver's seat. Refer to this information when ordering parts from the chassis manufacturer or chassis dealer service center.

The **U.I.N.** or *Unit Identification Number* is located on the tag underneath the driver's side window on the outside of the motor home. Use this number when ordering parts through your American Coach dealer.

(Example)

FEDERAL CERTIFICATION TAG			
MFD BY:			
DATE MFD:			
INC VEH MFD BY:			
DATE OF VEH MFD:			
GAWR:	0 KG ( )	LB ( )	
FRONT GAWR:	0 KG ( )	LB ( )	
	WITH:		
	TIRES AT:	0 KPA COLD SINGLE	RIMS
	( )	PSI	
INTERMEDIATE GAWR:	KG ( )	LB ( )	
	WITH:		
	TIRES AT:	0 KPA COLD	RIMS
	( )	PSI	
REAR GAWR:	0 KG ( )	LB ( )	
	WITH:		
	TIRES AT:	0 KPA COLD DUAL	RIMS
	( )	PSI	
GAWR COMBINED INTERMEDIATE AND REAR:	0 KG ( )	0 LB ( )	
THIS VEHICLE HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRIOR MANUFACTURERS' IVD WHERE APPLICABLE. THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS, IN EFFECT IN V.I.N.			
TYPE VEHICLE: MULTI-PURPOSE PASSENGER VEHICLE			
The tires and wheels with sizes and ratings designated above have been equipped with this vehicle by Fleetwood. Any replacement tires installed must meet the same specifications and minimum load requirements.			
FLEETWOOD RV, INC.			
PRODUCT :	YEAR :	MODEL :	
FIN:			kilograms ( pounds )
GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT RATING (GVWR)			0 ( )
FACTORY WEIGHT ON			0 ( )
OCCUPANT AND CARGO CARRYING CAPACITY			0 ( )
FULL FRESH WATER TANK:	gal @ 8.3 lb/gal		0 ( )
FULL WATER HEATER TANK:	gal @ 8.3 lb/gal		0 ( )
GROSS COMBINED WEIGHT RATING (GCWR)			0 ( )
MAX. GROSS TOWED WEIGHT			0 ( )
MAX. TONGUE WEIGHT			0 ( )
MOTORHOME OCCUPANT AND CARGO CARRYING CAPACITY			
VIN:			
THE COMBINED WEIGHT OF OCCUPANTS AND CARGO SHOULD NEVER EXCEED:			
0 kg or lbs			
Safety belt equipped seating capacity:			
CAUTION:			
A full load of water equals 0 kg or lbs of cargo @ 1 kg/L (8.3 lb/gal) and the tongue weight of a towed trailer counts as cargo			
CAUTION: LOAD CARRYING CAPACITY REDUCED			
Modifications to this vehicle have reduced the original load carrying capacity by			
kg or lbs			

## SUSPENSION ALIGNMENT AND TIRE BALANCE

The front suspension and steering system of this vehicle was accurately aligned at the factory before delivery to the dealership. However, after you have fully loaded the vehicle according to your personal needs, have the alignment checked and adjusted, if necessary. To help prevent uneven tire wear, check the front-end alignment periodically.

***Please note that front-end alignment after retail delivery is the owner's responsibility and is not covered under the warranty.***

(Example)

ALLIED RECREATION GROUP	
MAKE:	
MODEL:	
MODEL YR:	
U.I.N.	
MFD. ID. NO.	
DATE OF MFR. MO:	YR:
W15-1025	

*Located on the left of the main entry door or on exterior left front side of the motor home.*

U.I.N. (Unit Identification No.)

## Introduction

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Excessive or abnormal tire wear may indicate worn or misaligned suspension or steering components, unbalanced or improperly inflated tire(s) or some other tire/suspension problem.

Alignment can be affected by worn steering/suspension parts or road hazards such as hitting a curb, pothole, railroad track, etc. Improper alignment can cause tires to roll at an angle and wear unevenly. It may also cause the vehicle to “pull” to the right or left.

Out-of-balance tires will not roll smoothly and will cause annoying vibrations and uneven tread wear such as cupping or flat spots. If you see uneven tire tread wear or if the vehicle ride comfort decreases, the tires may need to be balanced. It is easy to confuse road imperfections transmitted from the tires, through the suspension and structure into the motor home as a “tire balance” issue.

See the *Chassis Operator’s/Owner’s Guide/Manual* for more information.

## AFTER-MARKET STEERING AID DEVICES

American Coach does not sanction or condone the installation of any steering aid device that is not approved by our chassis manufacturer’s. Any add-on device of this type may void the chassis manufacturer’s warranty on the item or items affected.

## WARNINGS, TERMS AND CONCEPTS FOR SAFE OPERATION OF YOUR MOTOR HOME

### Vehicle Crash

Like any other vehicle you may drive, your motor home can be involved in a vehicle crash, including a rollover. The motor home will be damaged and you and others can be injured or killed. Drive defensively at all times. **DO NOT** drive if

you are tired, have been drinking alcoholic beverages, are under the influence of any controlled substance, or are taking any medication or drugs that may impair your sight, hearing, judgment or coordination. Pull off the road and park in a safe area until you can drive safely.

### Vehicle Handling

Your motor home is longer, wider and higher than a typical car or truck you may be accustomed to driving. Keep this in mind as you become familiar with driving your motor home. New motor home owners should take special care to learn the driving and handling characteristics of your vehicle in safe and familiar surroundings. The distribution of the weight of your motor home is designed so it will handle safely while being driven.

- ***When loading the motor home, balance the load front-to-rear and side-to-side.***
- ***Load and secure heavier items lower in the storage areas than lighter items.***

If you fail to properly load your belongings and supplies, you will defeat the load distribution design of the motor home, possibly leading to handling problems and a vehicle crash.

### Vehicle Response

When you, the driver, accelerate, brake or steer the motor home, it responds to your inputs. If you are faced with an emergency while driving, the way you respond to the emergency and the way the motor home responds becomes more critical. If you load, alter or maintain your motor home improperly, it will not respond as it did when you first received it in an unloaded condition. ***Improper loading, alteration, maintenance and improper driver responses to emergency conditions can lead to handling problems and vehicle crashes.***

### Vehicle Towing

Your motor home can be equipped with a hitch designed to allow you to tow vehicles or other loads behind your motor home. The maximum amount of weight your motor home can pull or stop is determined by the manufacturer of the chassis on which your motor home is built. Check the ***Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual*** provided by the motor home chassis manufacturer for the limits on the weight you can tow.



#### NOTE

*In most cases the GCWR of the chassis and the finished motor home are the same. In some cases, due to the equipped hitch receiver, the GCWR may be reduced. Please refer to the Federal Certification Tag posted in your motor home for the rated GCWR.*

If the ***Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual*** equipped with your motor home does not provide specific information on towing weight limits, it is strongly recommended that the towed vehicle or trailer be equipped with a properly installed and operating supplemental brake control system that operates in combination with the brakes on your motor home.

- You may be able to increase the weight of any towed load by properly installing on the towed load a supplemental brake control system that operates with your motor home's braking system. Even with additional brakes, you cannot tow more than the Gross Towed Weight (GTW) or Gross Combined Weight Rating (GCWR) for the chassis under your motor home and the Federal Certification Tag located on the wall in the driver's compartment area. Again, check the ***Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual***.
- You **CANNOT** increase the towed weight limit by changing the size of your hitch.
- Properly load what you tow to avoid a vehicle crash.

- **Do not** attempt to tow something that is too heavy for your chassis.
- **When driving in mountainous areas, look for and obey highway signs concerning grades and curves.** Your driving experience when pulling and stopping a towed unit on mountain roads will be very different from what you experience on level ground.
- State laws in the United States and provincial laws in Canada vary concerning towing equipment requirements and limits. Check the laws in the areas where you anticipate traveling. The label on the trailer hitch will state the maximum allowable trailer weight for the different types of towing. Note that in some cases the Cargo Carrying Capacity (CCC) may have to be reduced to tow more weight.

### Alterations to Your Motor Home

Many motor home owners like to add a personal touch to their motor home. But there is a difference between changing how your motor home looks versus how it handles or responds to driver inputs. If you expect to make any type of alteration to your motor home, consult a professional who understands the correct way to do the alteration and how the alteration will change or affect the stability, handling, vehicle response, and overall performance and safety of your motor home. ***An improper alteration that affects vehicle handling or response can cause a vehicle crash, and any improper alteration to the electrical or Propane systems can cause a fire and can endanger your motor home and its occupants.*** Allied Recreation Group, your chassis and other manufacturers stand behind the motor home as delivered – **NOT** as altered by someone else. Due to a recent National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) ruling it should be noted that any alteration to a motor home increasing the overall weight by 100 lbs or more is required to be re-weighed.

## Introduction

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and the Federal Certification Weight Tag needs updated to reflect the weight change. This tag is printed and supplied by the motor home manufacturer. Please contact the “Administrator” at NHTSA at the address and telephone number shown on page 02-4 for further details.

It is not permitted to weld on the chassis or trailer hitch of your motorhome. Contact American Coach Service in the event alterations are considered.

**American Coach Service: 800 435 7345**

### Warning Devices

Your motor home is equipped with warning devices. Check them before a trip for proper operation. A disabled warning device cannot warn you or vehicle occupants of a life-threatening danger. Keep them working and respond to them quickly. This may include, but is not limited to, replacing the battery as applicable. Consult your Owner’s Package for information regarding warning device operation.

#### Examples of These Devices Include:

- Carbon Monoxide Detector/Alarm
- Propane Detector/Alarm
- Smoke Detector/Alarm
- Seat Belt Warnings
- Hazard Flashers
- Brake Warning
- Engine Warning

### EVENT DATA RECORDING DEVICE (If Equipped)

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** Vehicle Event Data Recording Capabilities.

Motor homes equipped with driver/passenger air bags, Navigational or Vehicle Avoidance Systems and/or equipped with certain other electronic devices may be equipped with event data recording capabilities.

Your motor home is built using components from a nationally recognized chassis manufacturer. For diagnostic and compliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards, this chassis comes equipped with electronic modules (devices).

Certain electronic modules have the capability to record information about the vehicle, driver, passenger, engine performance, braking performance, vehicle location, vehicle speed, occupant seat belt use, or other data.

The data stored in the electronic modules may be retrieved by authorized parties using specialized equipment, for vehicle diagnostic or accident investigation purposes.

Please refer to the chassis manufacturer owner’s guide and/or (if equipped) electronic device manufacturers owner’s guide(s), for further details on event data recording capabilities.

### DRIVER’S LICENSE REQUIREMENTS:

Some states require either an endorsement or a different class of driver’s license to operate or tow a recreational vehicle. License classes are often based on the size of the vehicle you wish to drive or the weight of the trailer you wish to tow. Please refer to your home states’ vehicle driver’s license authority to determine if there is such a requirement.

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# LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

For Motor Homes Manufactured by Allied Recreation Group, Inc.,  
Sold in the United States and Canada

## COVERAGE PROVIDED

Your new motor home is warranted under normal use to be free from manufacturing defects in material or workmanship when first sold by an authorized American Coach Dealership. For purposes of this warranty, "defect" means a failure of the material or workmanship to conform to the manufacturer's specifications and tolerances.

The warranty covers the first retail purchaser and all authorized transferees during the warranty. The warranty begins on the date of original retail delivery or the date the motor home is first placed into service as a rental, commercial or demonstrator unit (whichever occurs first) "Start Date" and extends for the following periods:

1. For non-structural defects, one (1) year from the Start Date or until the motor home reaches 15,000 total miles as determined by the mileage shown on the odometer, whichever occurs first.
2. For structural defects, three (3) years from the Start Date or until the motor home reaches 45,000 total miles as determined by the mileage shown on the odometer, whichever occurs first. Structural defects are defined only as the motor home's roof structure, sub-floor structure, and Vacubond® walls.

## WHAT IS NOT COVERED BY THIS WARRANTY

This warranty does not cover:

1. The automotive chassis system (including the chassis and drive train), tires and batteries, all of which are covered by the separate warranties of the respective manufacturers of these components.
2. Components or items expressly warranted by their respective manufacturer.
3. Defects or performance failures caused by or related to:
  - a. Abuse, misuse, negligence or accident;

- b. Failure to comply with instructions contained in the Owner's Information Package;
- c. Alteration or modification of the motor home;
- d. Environmental conditions (salt, hail, chemicals in the atmosphere, etc.);
- e. Normal deterioration due to wear or exposure, such as sealants, fading of exterior surfaces, fabrics, drapes, and carpet wear, etc.;
- f. Motor homes on which the odometer reading have been altered;
- g. Normal maintenance and service items, such as light bulbs, fuses, sealants, lubricants, etc.;
- h. Appearance imperfections, or damage to paint, graphics, exterior materials, or upholstery that may have occurred prior to delivery and are normally corrected during the delivery inspection process at the manufacturing plant or at the dealership;
- i. Transportation to and from dealer location;
- j. ALLIED RECREATION GROUP, Inc. SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY (1) INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY CLAIMS FOR PROPERTY DAMAGE, LOSS OF USE, LOSS OF VALUE, LOSS OF INCOME, LOSS OF TIME, INCONVENIENCE, COMMERCIAL LOSS, BUS FARES, VEHICLE RENTAL, INCIDENTAL CHARGES SUCH AS TELEPHONE CALLS OR HOTEL BILLS, (2) ANY OTHER PROPERTY DAMAGE CAUSED OR ALLEGED TO BE CAUSED BY MOLD, MILDEW, FUNGUS, DRY ROT OR ANY MICROBIAL MATTER, OR (3) LEGAL FEES OR EXPENSES;

## Warranty

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- k. Pre-mature deterioration and accelerated wear and tear on Motor homes used for full-time living accommodations;
- l. Motor homes used for commercial or business purposes;
- m. Motor Homes that are not originally sold by an authorized American Coach dealership, i.e., sold at auction, repossession, salvaged or sold in an otherwise distressed condition.
- n. Residential refrigerators, which are covered by separate warranties of the respective manufacturers of these components.

**Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.**

### LIMITATIONS

ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WRITTEN WARRANTY.

Some states do not allow restrictions on how long an implied warranty lasts, so this limitation may not apply to you.

The manufacturer is not responsible for any undertaking, representation or warranty made by any dealer or other person beyond those expressly set forth in this warranty. There is no warranty of any kind made by American Coach beyond the limited warranty contained in this document.

### YOUR RIGHTS UNDER STATE LAW

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

### DEALER'S OBLIGATIONS

By agreement with the manufacturer, the dealer is obligated to maintain the motor home prior to retail sale, to perform a detailed

pre-delivery inspection and to repair or replace any parts necessary to correct defects in material or workmanship.

### OWNER'S OBLIGATIONS

The owner is responsible for normal maintenance as described in the **Owner's Information Package**; however, minor adjustments (such as adjustments to the interior or exterior doors, cabinet latches, TV antenna control, etc.) will be performed by the dealer during the first 90 days after delivery. Thereafter, such adjustments are the responsibility of the owner as normal maintenance unless required as a direct result of repair or replacement of a defective part under this warranty.

If a problem occurs which the owner believes is covered by this warranty, then the owner shall contact the selling dealer, or other authorized dealer, giving sufficient information to resolve the matter.

Written notice of defects must be given to the selling dealer or manufacturer within thirty (30) days of discovery by owner but no later than ten (10) days after the expiration of the warranty period. The owner shall deliver the motor home to the dealer or an authorized American Coach dealer location for warranty service. See "Warranty Service," page 2-3, for additional details. To the extent allowed or not prohibited by applicable law, the manufacturer requires that the owner first provide it with direct written notification of any alleged unrepaired defect, or any other dissatisfaction experienced with the motor home so the manufacturer has the opportunity to cure the problem or dissatisfaction itself.

Giving the manufacturer this direct notice and opportunity to cure enables the manufacturer to supplement prior efforts by its authorized dealers so any ongoing problem or dissatisfaction can be resolved or addressed by the manufacturer. The manufacturer's written notice should be mailed to:

**American Coach Owner Relations  
P.O. Box 1007  
Decatur, Indiana 46733**

### **MANUFACTURER'S OBLIGATIONS**

Upon receipt of notice of a claim, where the dealer was unable or unwilling to resolve the problem, a American Coach Service Center will repair or replace any parts necessary to correct defects in material or workmanship.

For Customer Service Assistance, contact:

**American Coach Owner Relations**  
**1010 Commerce Drive**  
**P.O. Box 1007**  
**Decatur, IN 46733**  
**1-800-435-7345**

For Chassis Customer Assistance, contact:

**Spartan Motor Chassis Customer Assistance:**  
**1-800-543-4277**  
**Freightliner Chassis Assistance**  
**1-800-385-4357**

### **DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

AS TO NON-STRUCTURAL DEFECTS, ANY ACTION TO ENFORCE THESE EXPRESS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES SHALL NOT BE COMMENCED MORE THAN NINETY (90) DAYS AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE ONE YEAR WARRANTY COVERAGE PERIOD DESIGNATED ABOVE. AS TO STRUCTURAL DEFECTS, ANY ACTION TO ENFORCE THESE EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES SHALL NOT BE COMMENCED MORE THAN NINETY (90) DAYS AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE THREE YEAR WARRANTY PERIOD DESIGNATED ABOVE.

Indiana law shall exclusively govern the interpretation and application of this limited warranty. Any action to enforce this limited warranty or any applicable implied warranties shall be filed in the state or federal courts residing in Allen County or Adams County, Indiana.

### **WARRANTY SERVICE**

If you need warranty service or warranty information, please see the booklets and other documents included in your Owner's Information Package. If you have any questions about the warranty or what it does or does not cover, please contact Owner Relations. As a part of the pre-delivery inspection procedure, the dealer is responsible for road testing the motor home, noting and correcting any steering problems and setting correct tire pressures before delivery.



## Warranty

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**American Coach will not be responsible for front end alignment after this pre-delivery inspection has been performed.**

For warranty service, you should return your motor home to the selling dealer. If this is not possible, you may contact any other authorized American Coach motor home dealer. The American Coach Owner Relations group can help you find a dealer in your area. If, for some reason, a problem is not handled to your satisfaction:

1. Discuss any warranty-related problems directly with the manager and/or owner of the dealership, giving them an opportunity to help the service department resolve the matter for you.
2. If a problem arises that has not been resolved to your satisfaction by your local dealer, contact American Coach Owner Relations.
3. We sincerely believe that your dealer and the factory representative will be able to solve any problem that might arise. If their combined efforts are not satisfactory, please send a letter describing the circumstances to:

**American Coach Owner Relations  
1010 Commerce Drive  
P.O. Box 1007  
Decatur, Indiana 46733**

Please include the brand name and **Unit Identification Number (U.I.N.)** of your motor home. The **U.I.N.** is located on the identification tag **underneath the driver's side window** on the exterior of your motor home.

4. If you wish to call for assistance, please use this toll-free telephone number:

**American Coach Owner Relations  
1-800-435-7345**

There may be times when your motor home will need repairs or parts while you are on the road. If your motor home is repaired by a non authorized repair facility (non-American Coach

dealer), be sure to save receipts and especially any parts that are replaced. These parts will have to be returned to your dealer before you can be reimbursed for their cost.

Always make a written list of the motor home problems or the specific work you want done. If you've had work done that is not on your maintenance log, let the service advisor know. If you have a long list of service items that need attention and you need your motor home very soon, discuss the situation with the service advisor, listing the items in order of priority. This will help the service department manage its time and will help get you going as quickly as possible. If required work is not covered under the warranty, your dealer's service department can help you with getting the correct service.

The materials in your Owner's Information Package contain warranty information and operating instructions on the various appliances and components in your motor home. If you do not have operating instructions for a particular appliance or component, contact your dealer. Warranty registration cards for these items should be filled out and mailed as soon as possible after you take delivery of your motor home.

When contacting any of the equipment manufacturers, always have the model and serial numbers available. Appliance identification numbers will be found on tags or plates attached to the appliance.

If you have a warranty or service concern about the chassis portion of your motor home, you may go directly to an authorized chassis dealer for service. This may save you time and effort as the chassis warranty is administered by the chassis manufacturer. Consult your area directory for an authorized claims dealer. If you are unsure if the issue is chassis related, please contact your American Coach dealer.

The motor home has been thoroughly inspected before shipment. Your dealer is responsible for performing a complete pre-delivery inspection of the motor home as

specified in the Owner Care delivery checkout. Please refer to the warranty in the front of this manual. It explains your rights and obligations, as well as the rights and obligations of the dealer and manufacturer. Please read this section carefully. You will be better informed in case you have a warranty-related problem, and your dealer will be better able to get you on the road again.

### **REPORTING SAFETY DEFECTS**

#### **UNITED STATES CONSUMERS:**

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect that could cause a crash, injury, or death, you should immediately inform the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in addition to notifying American Coach Owner Relations at 1-800-435-7345.

If NHTSA receives similar complaints, it may open an investigation, and if it finds that a safety defect exists in a group of vehicles, it may order a recall and remedy campaign.

To contact NHTSA, you may either call the Vehicle Safety Hot line toll-free at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov> or write to:

#### **Administrator**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590**

You can also obtain other information about motor vehicle safety from the Vehicle Safety Hot line.

#### **CANADIAN CONSUMERS:**

If you believe that your vehicle has a defect that could cause a crash, injury, or death, you should immediately inform Allied Recreation Group at: 1-800-800-322-8216

Or, you may call Transport Canada toll-free at: 1-800-333-0510

# AMERICAN COACH INFORMATION

Heritage, Eagle, Tradition, Allegiance and Revolution

## ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT BREAKER PANELS, CIRCUIT FUSE PANELS AND BATTERY DISCONNECT SWITCH LOCATIONS

### Heritage, American Eagle, Tradition, Allegiance and Revolution

- Chassis 12-Volt Fuse Front Panel..... Front Driver Side Compartment
- Chassis Fuse 12-Volt Fuse Rear Panel ..... Next to 12-Volt Battery Disconnect Switch
- Chassis 12-Volt Battery Disconnect Switch ..... Rear engine access compartments
- House 12-Volt Battery Disconnect Switch ..... In the battery compartment
- House 12-Volt Fuse Panel..... In the basement
- House 120-Volt Breaker Panel..... Various Locations by model

### CAUTION

Before relamping, disconnect power source by removing fuse or placing circuit breaker and control switch in OFF position.

Halogen bulbs operate at extremely high temperatures and pressures and will shatter if not handled correctly.

Always use a soft dry cloth or cotton gloves when handling halogen bulbs.

Do not touch glass area with bare hands. If bulb is touched with bare hands, wipe the bulb clean with rubbing alcohol.

Do not use near flammable or combustible materials and/or objects which may be sensitive to fading or drying.

Use bulbs designed or specific by manufacturer as to style, wattage and voltage.

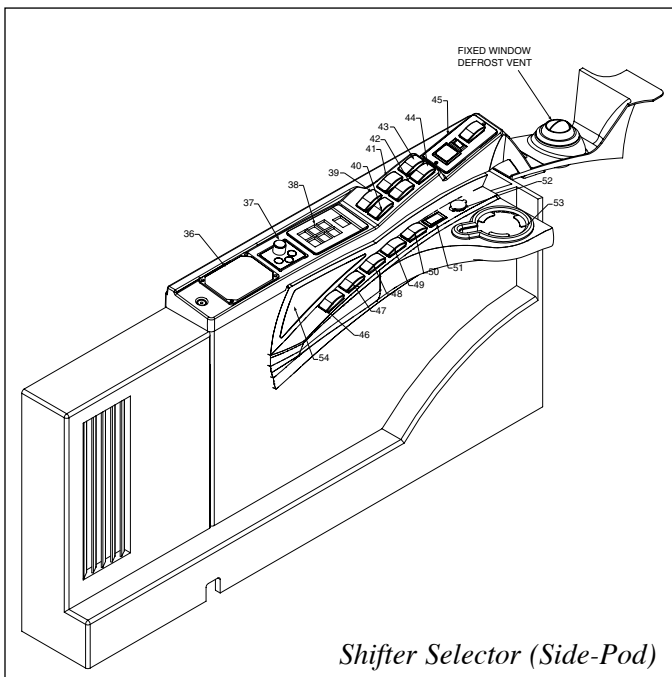
### WARNING

Do not install 12-volt fuses or 120-volt breakers with amperage ratings greater than that specified on the device or label. Doing so constitutes a fire hazard.

## Heritage Information

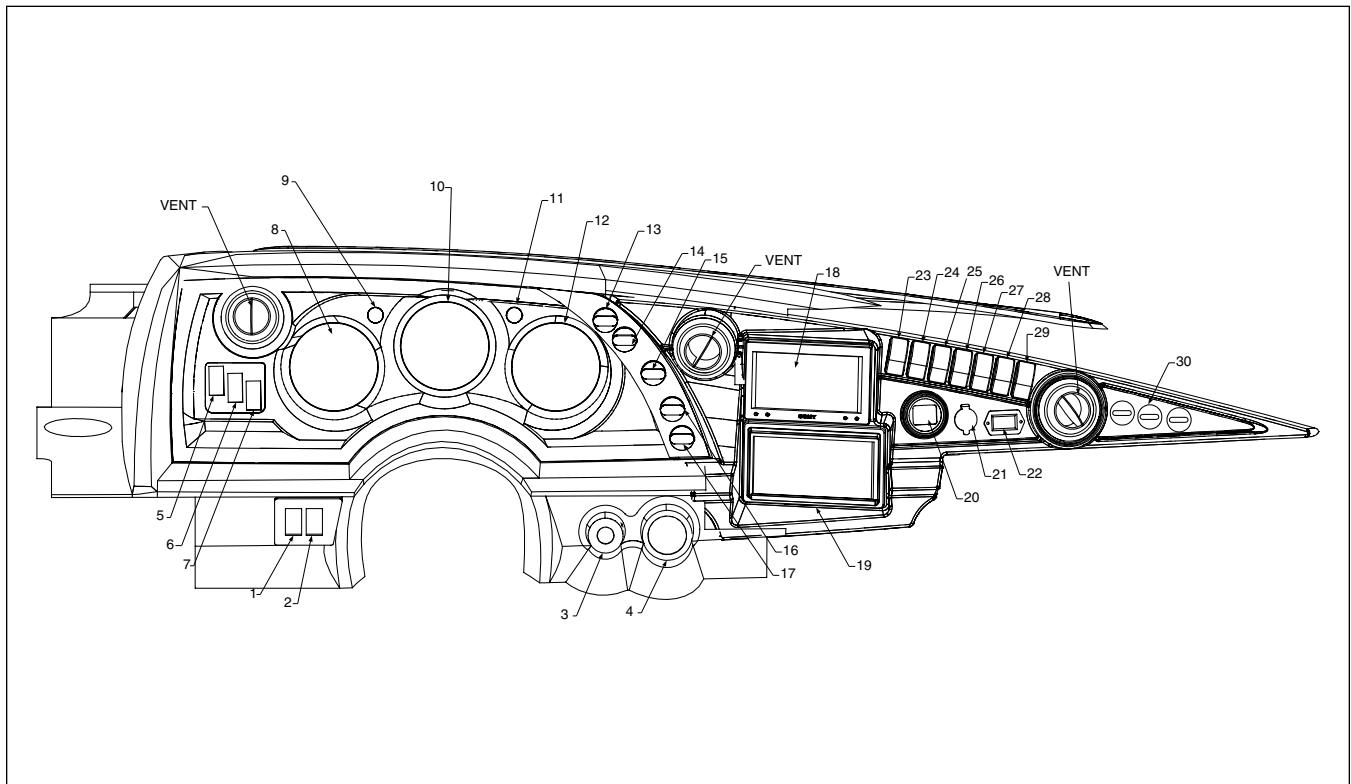
### ***Shifter Selector (Side-Pod)***

- 36. Leveling Jacks Control Panel With Air Dump
- 37. Data Control Panel
- 38. Transmission Shifter
- 39. Tag Axle Dump Switch
- 40. Blank
- 41. Air Horn Switch
- 42. Automatic Traction Control Switch
- 43. Engine Brake Switch On/Off
- 44. Engine Brake Selector Switch Hi/Low
- 45. Mirror Control Switch / Power Window / Fixed Window Defrost Switch
- 46. Driver Exit Switch
- 47. Driver Set Switch
- 48. Driver #2 Switch
- 49. Driver #1 Switch
- 50. Blank
- 51. Blank
- 52. 12 Volt Outlet
- 53. Cup Holder
- 54. Spot Light Control



*Shifter Selector (Side-Pod)*

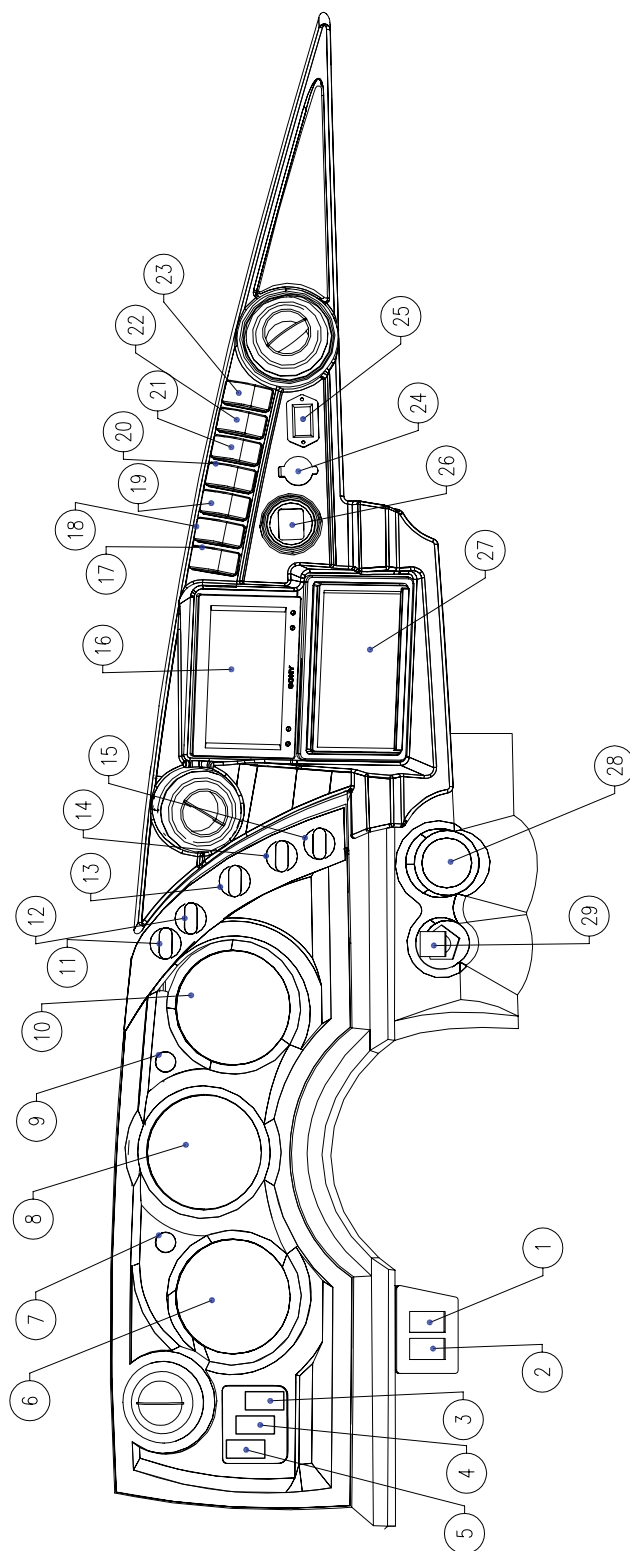
### DRIVER'S CONTROLS



#### ***Instrument Panels***

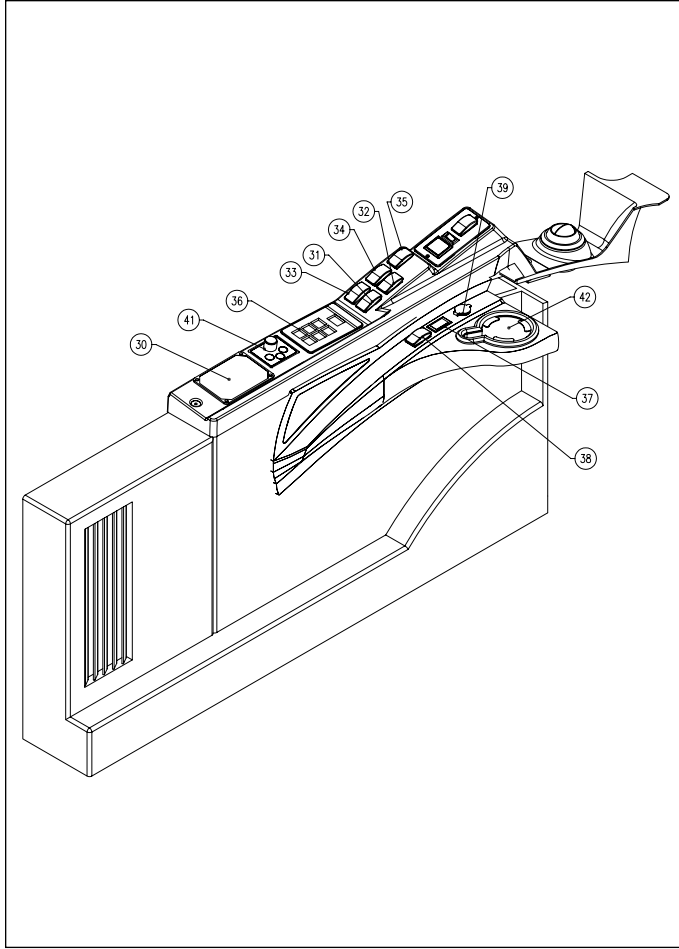
1. Blank
2. Auxiliary Start Switch
3. Parking Brake Control Knob
4. Chassis Engine Ignition Switch
5. Headlight Switch
6. Fog Lamp Switch
7. Dimmer Switch
8. Fuel, Water, & Oil Gauge
9. Left Turn Indicator
10. Speed Gauge
11. Right Turn Indicator
12. Tach, & Front/Rear Air Gauges
13. Heating/Air Conditioning Fan Speed Control
14. Heating/Air Conditioning Fan Temperature Control
15. Vent Control
17. Defrost Temperature Control
18. Back-up Monitor
19. Radio/Satellite Radio/Tire Pressure/Navigation System/CD/DVD
20. ATI Temperature / Compass Gauge
21. 12 Volt Power Outlet
22. Hour Meter
23. Blank
24. Docking Lights Switch
25. Hood Light Switch
26. Dome Light Switch
27. Radio Switch
28. Blank
29. Generator Switch
30. Auxiliary Temperature Controls

### DRIVER'S CONTROLS



## Tradition and Allegiance Information

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*Shifter Selector (Side-Pod Driver Console)*

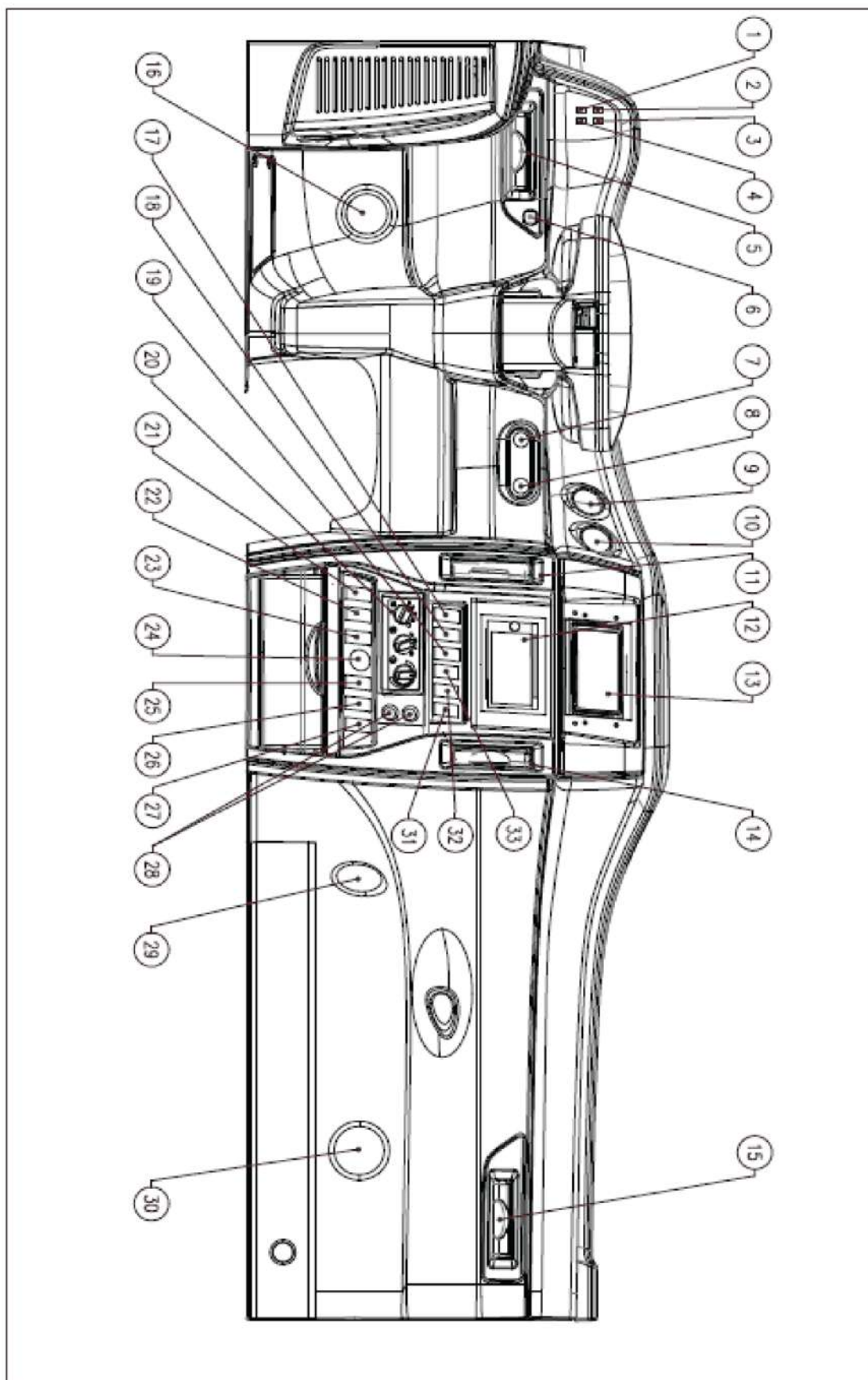
### **Instrument Panels**

1. Auxiliary Start (Chassis & Generator Engine)
2. Blank
3. Dimmer Switch
4. Driving Lamp Switch
5. Head Lights Switch
6. Fuel / Water / Oil Gauge
7. Left Turn Signal Indicator
8. Speedometer
9. Right Turn Signal Indicator
10. Tachometer / Front & Rear Air Gauges
11. Heating/Air Conditioner Fan Speed Control
12. Heating/Air Conditioner Temperature Control
13. Vent Control
14. Defrost Fan Speed Control
15. Defrost Temperature Control

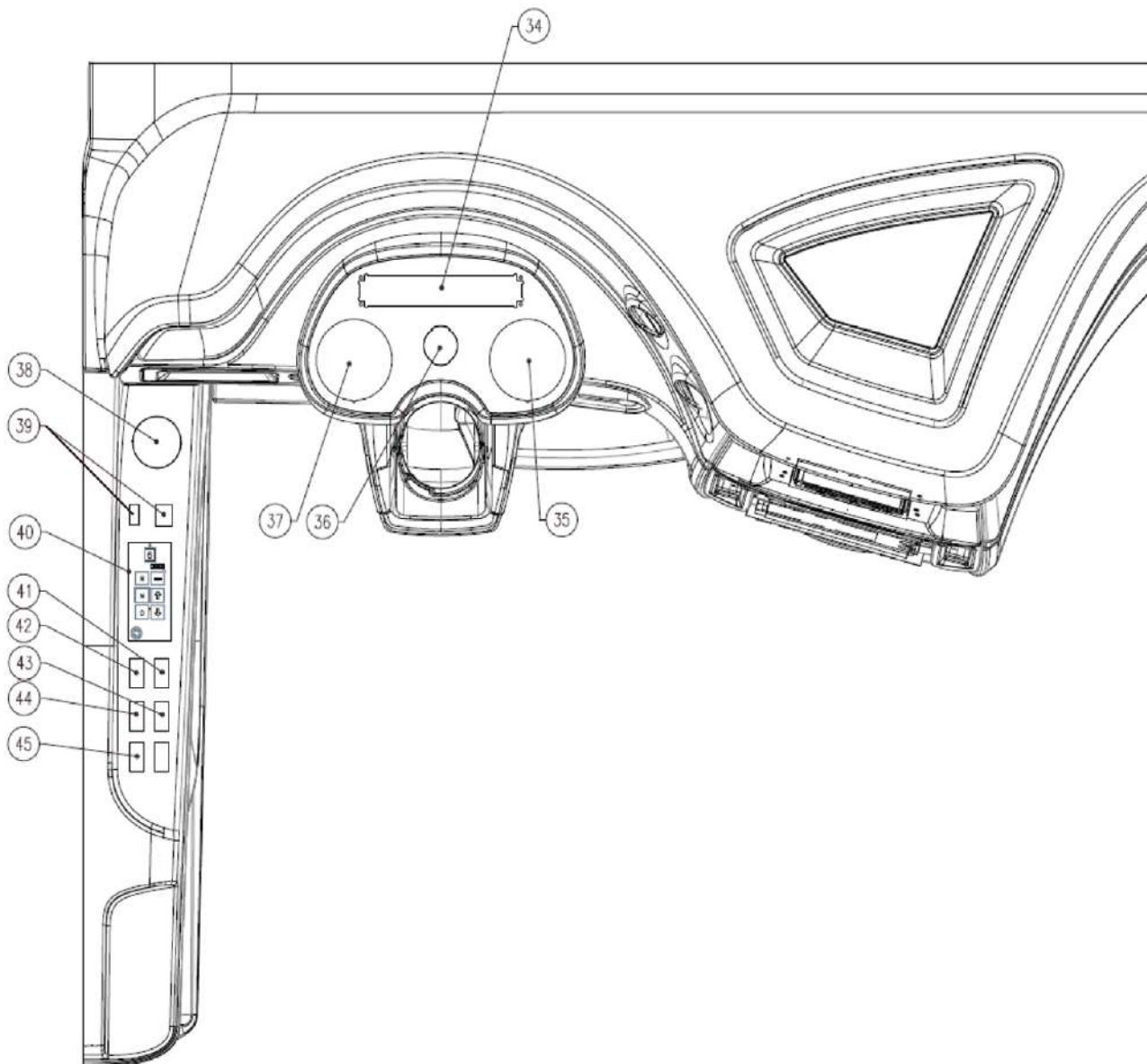
16. Back-Up Monitor/Engine Diagnostics
17. Blank
18. Docking Lights
19. Hood Light Switch
20. Dome Light Switch
21. Radio Switch
22. Blank
23. Generator Start Switch
24. 12 Volt Outlet
25. Generator Hour Meter Gauge
26. ATI Temperature / Compass Gauge
27. Radio/Satellite Radio/CD/DVD/Navigation/Tire Pressure
28. Chassis Engine Ignition Switch
29. Parking Brake Control Knob

### ***Shifter Selector (Side-Pod)***

30. Leveling Jacks Control Pad w/Air Dump
31. Air Horn Switch
32. Automatic Traction Control
33. Tag Dump Switch
34. Engine Brake Selector Switch HI/LOW
35. Engine Brake Switch ON/OFF
36. Transmission Shifter
37. Blank
38. Adjustable Pedals (Brake & Accelerator)
39. 12 Volt Outlet
40. Power Window/Mirror Controls
41. Data Control Panel
42. Cup Holder



## Revolution Information



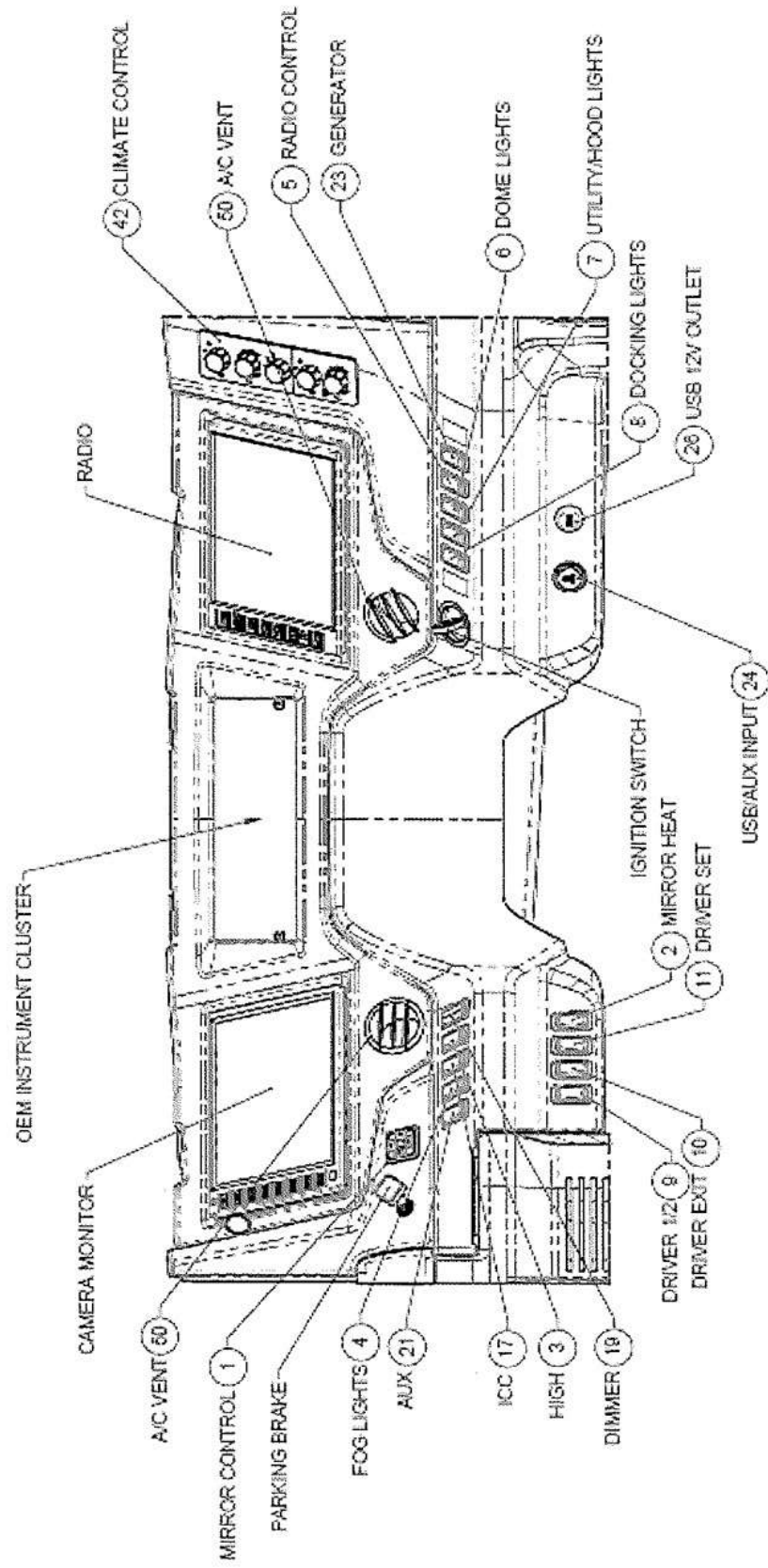
1. Driving Light Switch
2. Head light Switch
3. Dimmer Switch
4. Fog Light Switch
5. Vent
6. Info Bar Toggle
7. Ignition
8. Park Brake
9. Air Pressure 1
10. Air Pressure 2
11. Vent
12. Radio
13. Rear Vision Monitor
14. Vent
15. Vent

16. Vent
17. Driver Shade Switch
18. Front Shade Switch
19. Radio Switch
20. Heater/AC Control
21. Drivers Blind Switch
22. Front Blind Switch
23. Docking Lights Switch
24. USB Charging / Aux IN
25. Utility Light Switch
26. Entry Blind Switch
27. Passenger Blind Switch
28. 12V outlet
29. Vent
30. Vent

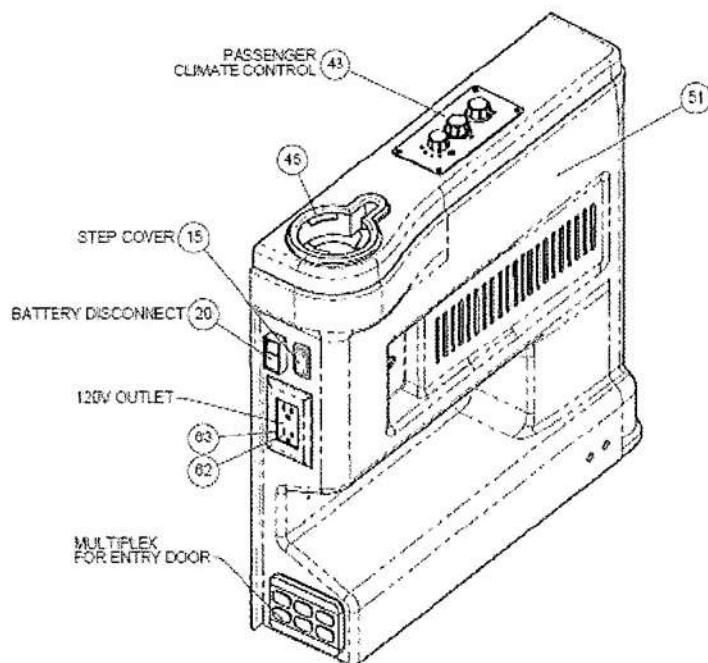
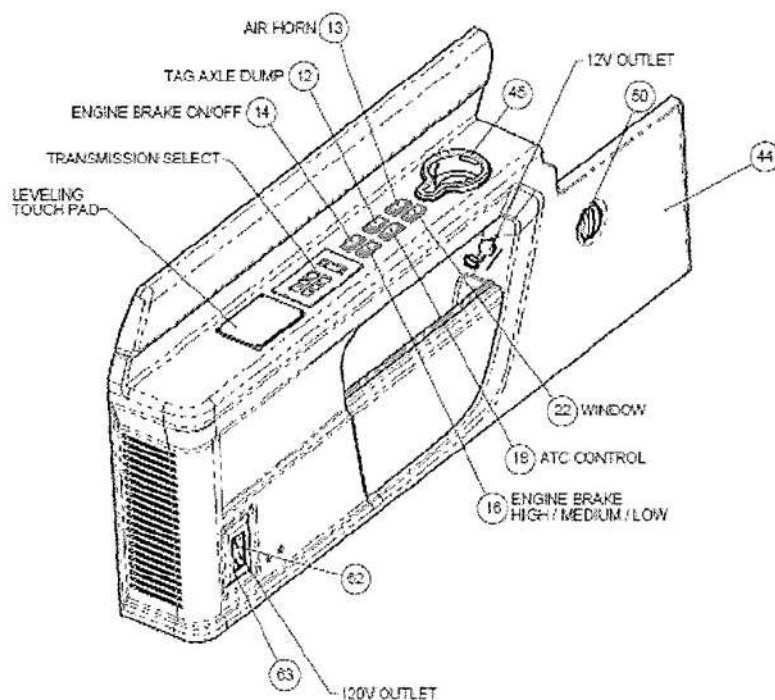
31. Passenger Shade Switch
32. Entry Shade Switch
33. Generator Switch
34. Info Bar
35. MPH / Oil Pressure / Water Temp
36. Oil Temp
37. RPM / Fuel / Battery
38. Cup Holder
39. Mirror Switch / Mirror Heat
40. Transmission Shifter
41. Engine Brake Switch
42. Tag Axle Switch
43. Aux Start Switch
44. Pedals Switch
45. Map Light Switch



DRIVER'S CONTROLS



### SHIFTER SELECTOR SIDE-POD



### DEEP SNOW AND MUD SWITCH

#### AUTOMATIC TRACTION CONTROL (ATC)

##### *(If Equipped)*

A deep snow and mud option switch is included with ATC. This function increases available traction on extra soft surfaces like snow, mud or gravel, by slightly increasing the permissible wheel spin.

Drivers use a deep snow and mud switch to select this feature. When this function is in use, the ATC indicator lamp blinks continuously.

Switch and lamp locations will vary, depending on the vehicle make and model.

Listed below is how the Deep Snow and Mud feature works:

		Function	Function
Driver Action	System Response	Active	Not Active
Press deep snow and mud switch	ATC lamp blinks continuously	X	
Press switch again	ATC lamp stops blinking		X

**NOTE:** Turning off the ignition will also deactivate the deep snow and mud feature.

### PNEUMATIC DOOR LOCK

##### *(If Equipped)*

Your Motor home may be equipped with a pneumatic door lock. This lock system serves two functions:

1. To lock and secure the door
2. To pull the door in tight to the frame and seal out wind noise.

The lock is activated by a switch located by the passenger's right arm rest.

### LIVING WITH YOUR MOTOR HOME

When preparing to travel in your motor home, you have 20 minutes to retract your slide outs and raise your leveling jacks before the air leveling system "times out". In the event you exceed this period, you will be required to turn the motor off with the ignition key, wait five seconds with the key in the off position and restart your engine. Press the "Travel Mode" on the leveling system key pad to ensure activation of the leveling system to "travel height". This event should take less than five minutes. You can verify the leveling system is at ride height by observing the clearance between the tires and the wheel well skirts. There should be approximately two to three inches of vertical clearance between these two components with the wheels pointing straight ahead. Failure to wait until the leveling system is fully inflated may result to damage to the fiberglass wheel well skirt or damage.

### PLUMBING SYSTEMS AND HOLDING TANKS

#### *Draining the Holding Tanks*

For all motor homes the holding tanks terminate in a valve arrangement that permits draining of each tank separately. The valves are called "knife" valves. A blade or knife closes the opening in the sewer drain pipes stopping flow. If equipped, there may be a blade that is connected to a "T" handle that is pulled outward to open the knife valve for discharging the wastewater from the tank in the motor home.

During self-containment use, the sewer line is securely capped to prevent leakage of waste material onto the ground or pavement. ***Do not activate the knife valve when the protective cap is installed on the pipe.*** Always drain the tank into an acceptable sewer inlet or dump station.

Drain the holding tanks only when they are at least 3/4 full. If necessary, fill the tanks with

water to 3/4 full. This provides sufficient water to allow complete flushing of waste material into the sewer line.

Whenever possible, drain the holding tanks before traveling. Wastewater and sewage in the holding tanks reduces the carrying or cargo capacity of the motor home. See the ***Motor Home Loading*** chapter.

During extended or semi-permanent hook-ups and the tank valves are left open to the sewage systems, waste materials will build up in the tank and cause serious plugging. In these cases, keep the valve closed until the tanks are 3/4 full, and then drain into the sewage system.

The holding tank drain valve outlet is to be used with a removable termination fitting that locks onto the outlet with a clockwise twist. Clamp the sewer hose drain to this fitting. A protective cap should remain in place when you are not draining the tanks.

### To drain the holding tanks:

1. Attach the sewer hose to the holding tank outlet. Insert the end of the hose into the sewer or dump station inlet, pushing it firmly far enough into the opening to be secure. In some cases, adapters may be necessary or required between the line and the inlet. Arrange the sewer hose so it slopes evenly.
2. Electric Dump Valve (if equipped) - Drain the black water holding tank first. Push the dump switch up towards the word “open” and watch for discharge down the sewer hose. The valve will open in 1-2 seconds and an LED light will come on. Do not hold the switch for more than 2 seconds. For other models drain the black water holding tank first by pulling the “T” handle out on the valve and watch for discharge down the sewer hose.
3. Electric Dump Valve (if equipped) - Allow enough time for the tank to drain completely. When the tanks is empty push the rocker switch to the “close” position.

Again the valve will close in 1-2 seconds. The LED light will go out when the valve is completely closed. Run enough water (up to five gallons or so) into the tank to cover the bottom. This will aid the break up of solid wastes, and reduce “pyramiding” of waste material. For all other models allow enough time for the tanks to drain completely. When the tank is empty push the “T” handle “in” to close the valve completely. Run water (approximately 5 gallons or so) into the tank so the bottom is covered. This will aid in breaking up of the solid masses that often form in the tank and reduce the possibility of “pyramiding” of the deposited solid waste.

4. To drain the gray water tank, repeat the steps above using the other knife valve. This tank is drained last to aid in flushing the outlets and hose. The gray water knife valve may be left open in a semi-permanent hookup.
5. See the tank flush system instructions in the next section if your recreational vehicle is so equipped.
6. Remove out the sewer hose and cap the outlet.
7. Rinse out the sewer hose with fresh water and remove the sewer hose from the dump station.
8. Replace sewer or dump station covers.



### CAUTION

The sewer drain valve must be open when using the black tank flush inlet.

## ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS

### Battery Charging

Your motor home is equipped with AGM sealed batteries. These batteries do not contain electrolyte (fluid). They are designed to be maintenance free with proper use

Please refer to the ***Owner's Manual*** for further information regarding the Battery Charging System.

# Heritage, Eagle, Tradition, Allegiance and Revolution

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## ***Automatic Generator Start (AGS)***

The AGS panel is usually located in the front overhead for the Eagle, Revolution and Tradition.

Your *Owner's Information Package* contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning the system.

## **TRIP / NAVIGATION AND HOUSE MONITORING SYSTEM**

### ***Reference Material***

Visteon (TM) VNMC 1000.....Visteon (if equipped)

### ***Navigation System (HERITAGE, EAGLE, TRADITION)***

The coach is equipped with a Navigation System that is integrated into the standard "Visteon" VNMC 1000. This system functions as your "navigational aid", providing turn-by-turn visual and voice guidance to direct you to your selected destination. The navigation system uses the Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites, and a digital road map database to calculate and display travel directions on the Visteon VNMC 1000 Display screen.

### ***Cameras (If Equipped)***

Cameras are provided in several areas. They are: back-up (rear), door side and road side. There may be other locations depending on the model and brand. The camera images are displayed on the coach dash monitor and on optional bedroom monitors if available. The cameras can be manually selected by the on-board switching system (Heritage only) and camera images can be displayed one at a time.

The cameras are also automatically selected when the ignition is in the "ON" position. There are three camera functions that automatically occur based on external activity. The automatic camera functions are as follows:

- Automatically display back-up camera on the monitor when reverse gear is selected.
- Automatically display door side camera on the monitor when right turn signal is active.
- Automatically display road side camera on the monitor when left turn signal is active.

The displaying of the back-up camera image when reverse gear is selected will override all other screens including the door and road side camera images.

The back-up camera is also equipped with a one-way speaker, with adjustable volume, for listening to spotter's backing instructions. The volume control knob is located on the panel under the driver's window.

When the reverse gear or the right or left turn signals are no longer selected the monitor screen will return to the previous screen.

### ***Video Select Switch (Heritage Only)***

There will be a "VIDEO SELECT" rocker switch for each monitor. For the front in-dash monitor the "VIDEO SELECT" rocker switch will be located on the right hand side of the driver. If the coach has the optional bedroom monitor a second "VIDEO SELECT" rocker switch for the bedroom monitor will be located just below the monitor on the side of the cabinet or on the wall adjacent to the monitor.

State laws in the United States and provincial laws in Canada vary concerning operator licensing requirements and vehicle dimensional restrictions. Check the laws in the area where you anticipate traveling.

## MOTOR HOME LOADING

### ***Responsibility for Proper Loading***

As the operator of this motor home, you are responsible for its proper and safe loading. This section is intended to provide you with helpful information concerning the loading of your motor home.

Your motor home chassis is designed to carry a specifically rated maximum weight. This weight includes everything: the weight of the empty motor home itself, all occupants and their belongings, fuel, fresh water, waste water and anything else that may be in or attached to the motor home. ***The specified weights must never be exceeded.*** If you do exceed them, you will change how your motor home handles and responds, possibly leading to a vehicle crash.

### ***Some Definitions First***

Before discussing loading and weighing, we need to explain some common weight terms. We will use abbreviations and you should refer back to these terms if you do not understand what the abbreviation means.

#### **Designated Seating Capacity (Canadian units only)**

The number of sleeping positions designated equals the seating capacity.

#### **Factory Weight\***

Is the UVW at the time of shipment from the factory to the dealer.

#### **GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating)\***

Is the maximum permissible loaded weight a specific axle is designed to carry.

#### **GCWR (Gross Combined Weight Rating)\***

Is the value specified by the motor home

manufacturer as the maximum allowable loaded weight of this motor home with its towed trailer or towed vehicle. Towing and braking capacities may be different. Refer to American Coach and the chassis manufacturer's manuals for complete information.

#### **GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating)\***

Is the maximum permissible weight of this fully loaded motor home. The GVWR is equal to or greater than the sum of the Unloaded Vehicle Weight plus the Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity.

#### **LCCR (Load Carrying Capacity Reduced)\***

Is the amount the OCCC is reduced due to vehicle weight added by the dealer between vehicle certification and first retail sale.

#### **MGTW (Maximum Gross Towed Weight)\***

Is the maximum loaded weight of a trailer or towed vehicle this motor home, with equipped hitch, has been designated to tow. The maximum weight that can be safely towed depends on the article being towed. Consult the "hitch rating" tag for specific towing capacities.



### **NOTE**

*In some cases the Cargo Carrying Capacity may have to be reduced to tow specific articles. Maximum Gross Towed Weight cannot be increased by changing the trailer hitch.*

#### **MTW (Maximum Tongue Weight)\***

Is the maximum permissible downward force exerted on the hitch ball by the towed vehicle coupler. Consult the hitch rating tag or Fed Certification Tag for specific tongue weight capacities

#### **OCCC (Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity)\***

Is the available weight capacity for occupants and cargo however dealer options may reduce this by the LCCR.

### UVW (Unloaded Vehicle Weight)\*

Is the weight of a vehicle with maximum capacity of all fluids necessary for operation of the vehicle, but without cargo, or accessories that are ordinarily removed from the vehicle when they are not in use. UVW does not include occupants and cargo such as water in the various holding tanks.

**\*These ratings are shown on the label which**

### **WARNING**

The heaviest loaded motor home with all passengers, goods, water, driver and towed vehicle must not exceed any of the following:

1. The gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR).
2. The gross combination weight rating (GCWR).
3. The front/rear gross axle weight ratings (GAWRs).
4. The individual tire and wheel ratings.

**includes the Federal Certification Tag.**

### **Towing a Vehicle or Trailer**



### **NOTE**

*Some states and provinces require brakes and safety chains when towing vehicles. Consult the proper authorities in the states or provinces through which you will be traveling.*

### **(“Towed Load or Towed Unit”)**

When you use your motor home to tow, remember that you must stop the towed load with your motor home’s brakes. This is critical on hills and in the mountains where you may encounter sharp curves and possibly irregular road surfaces. Check your motor home *Chassis Operator’s/Owner’s Guide/Manual* for the maximum weight your motor home can pull and stop on



### **NOTE**

*In most cases the GCWR of the chassis and the finished motor home are the same. In some cases, due to the equipped hitch receiver, the GCWR may be reduced. Please refer to the Federal Certification Tag posted in your motor home for the rated GCWR.*

both level and steep roads.

If the *Chassis Operator’s/Owner’s Guide/Manual* equipped with your motor home does not provide specific information on towing weight limits, it is strongly recommended that the towed vehicle or trailer be equipped with a properly installed and operating supplemental brake control system that operates in combination with the brakes on your motor home. The supplemental brakes will NOT allow you to tow more than the listed GCWR for your motor home. ***If you cannot stop, you will crash.***

You must not exceed the tire capacities or the weight factors listed below if you expect to tow something behind your motor home, either with or without a dolly. The factors are:

- ***GCWR - Gross Combined Weight Rating***
- ***MGTW - Maximum Gross Towed Weight***
- ***MTW - Maximum Tongue Weight***
- ***GAWR - Gross Axle Weight Rating***

The ratings for the above factors are all listed on the Federal Certification Tag posted inside the motor home.

- ***Tire Capacity***

The tire capacity is dependent upon the inflation pressure set in the tires. Inflation pressure requirements can change due to loading. Consult the tire’s sidewall for maximum pressure and loading.

### **Weight Distribution Hitches.**

A major weight distributing hitch manufacturer provides the following information in their installation and operation instructions:

“...Severe bumps and badly undulating road can damage your towing vehicle, hitch, and trailer, and should be negotiated at a slow steady speed.”

A weight-distributing hitch that has been properly adjusted for operation on relatively level road surfaces may, cause the weight distribution hitch to produce enough force to bend the trailer “A” frame, hitch head assembly, hitch receiver, or motor home frame when operated over severe bumps and badly undulating road surfaces. Contact your weight distributing hitch

manufacturer for further information. Frame damage resulting from this type of operation may void portions of your warranty.

If you expect to tow with your motor home, there are additional guidelines that you must follow:

- ***Do not use a load equalizing hitch if your hitch head receiver rating is below 10,000 lbs. capacity. It could cause structural damage to the motor home frame components.***
- ***Do not exceed Maximum Tongue Weight as listed on the Federal Certification Tag. Heavier tongue weights can change your vehicle's handling and response, can cause a vehicle to crash, and will restrict your coverage under the Owner Care Warranty.***
- ***Do not tow anything weighing more than the GTW listed on the Federal Certification Tag. Heavier towed loads can exceed your chassis' ability to pull and stop the load and cause a vehicle crash, damage the motor home structure or drive train, and restrict your coverage under the American Coach or chassis manufacturer's warranty. Changing the trailer hitch will not increase the tow capacity of the motor home.***
- ***Consult the Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual, and U.S. state and Canadian provincial laws for towing weight limits and for guidelines for installing supplemental braking systems that operate with your motor home's brakes.***
- ***Towing equipment to consider includes a weight distribution system, a sway control system, a brake controller, and a supplemental brake control system. The weight of your towed load in comparison to the towing capacity of your motor home should be evaluated during this consultation. Installation of tow equipment must be performed by a competent installer. Make sure the installation follow the tow equipment manufacturer's instructions.***

## **WARNING**

Do not exceed the rated load of the motor home, or the rated load of any axle. Exceeding the GVWR, GAWR, GTW or GCWR of your motor home can cause handling problems, a vehicle crash, damage your motor home and void your warranties.

## **CAUTION**

Towing a trailer which weighs the maximum rated amount of the trailer hitch may in some cases exceed the Gross Combined Vehicle Weight Rating (GCWR) of the vehicle. In these cases personal cargo and/or fluid capacities (fresh, gray and black water) may have to be removed or reduced. Driving any vehicle while towing a trailer that exceeds the GCWR or exceeding the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) without a trailer may result in an unsafe condition due to handling issues and increased stopping distances.

Example: The GVWR (loaded vehicle without trailer) of a unit is 28,000 lbs. The GCWR (with trailer) of the unit is 35,000 lbs. The trailer hitch rating is 7,500 lbs. Calculating the amount of cargo that must be removed is as follows: 35,000 lbs (GCWR) – 28,000 lbs (GAWR) = 7,000 lbs. The trailer hitch is rated for 7,500 lbs. therefore 500 lbs of cargo capacity must be removed or reduced from the vehicle. .

The way your motor home handles and responds will be affected by the way the towed unit is loaded. If the tongue weight is too light in relations to the GTW, handling and response will change and your motor home will operate less safely. Careful load planning and safe experimentation with different loading patterns in what you are towing can avoid this risk and make your driving and towing experience safer and more enjoyable.

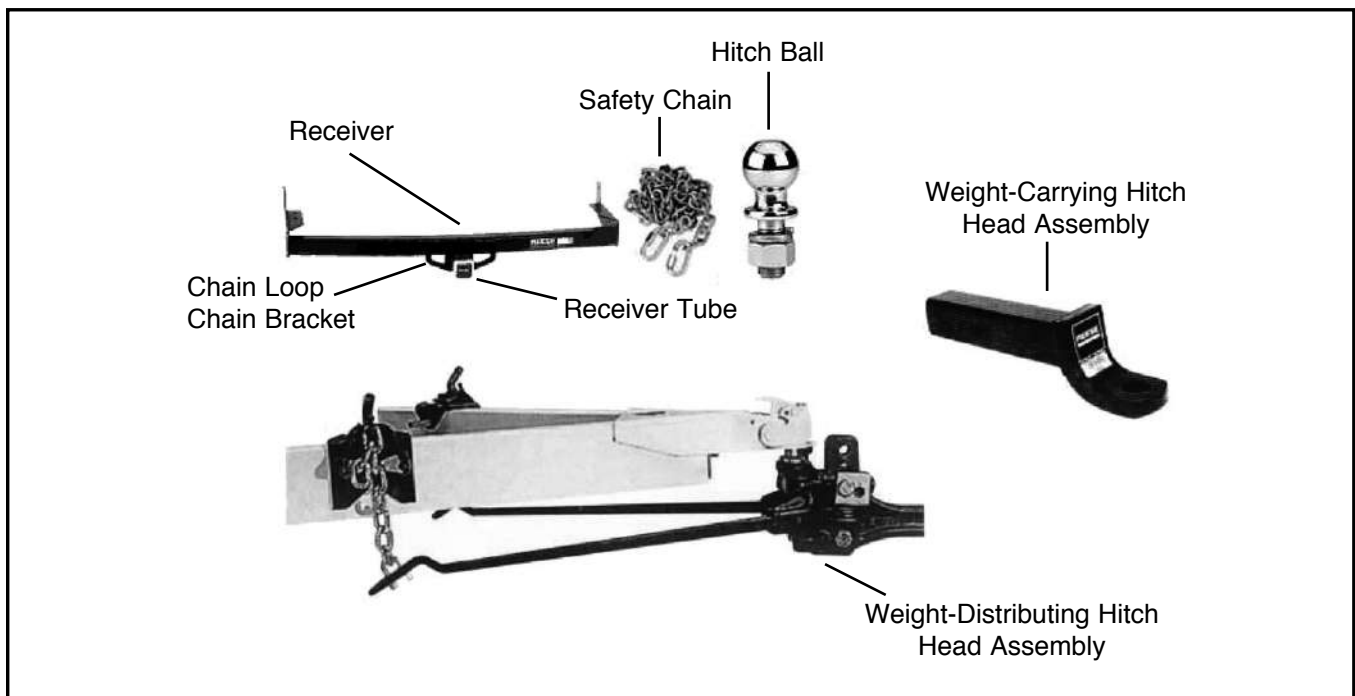
Your motor home is equipped with some of the equipment required to tow a trailer, automobile dolly, or other towed load.

The equipment supplied with your motor home is called the “hitch receiver”. This component is attached to the motor home frame. The square tube opening “receives” any of a wide variety of hitch head assemblies. The “hitch head” is the



## On The Road

Typical hitch system components are shown in the following illustration.



*Typical Hitch System Components*

component that includes the hitch ball.

Hitch head assemblies are available in both “Weight-Distributing” (load-equalizing) and “Weight-Carrying” types. A weight-distributing hitch uses spring bars attached to the trailer tongue A-frame assembly to transfer some of the trailer tongue weight to both motor home axles.

A weight-carrying hitch head assembly does not use spring bars. All of the tongue weight of the trailer bears down on the hitch assembly which loads the motor home rear axle. For this reason, the maximum load you can tow with a weight carrying hitch head assembly is limited.

In addition to weight-carrying and weight-distributing, your hitch may also have a dinghy towing rating. This rating will apply should you tow a motor vehicle with all four wheels down.

The ratings associated with the particular hitch receiver supplied with your motor home are noted on the weight tag and on a label affixed to the hitch receiver.

It is important that the devices which attach

to the hitch receiver equipped with your motor home are rated to equal or exceed the loads of your towed trailer, automobile dolly, or other towed load.

The weight label on your hitch receiver provides the maximum trailer weight rating and the maximum tongue weight rating. It is important that these ratings not be exceeded.

Consult with your dealer or towing equipment/trailer supplier to determine the correct type of hitch head assembly, hitch ball and other tow equipment you should use for towing and leveling the load you intend to pull.

If you intend to tow, take advantage of reading and studying literature that is available from vehicle manufacturers, the National Highway traffic Safety Administration, equipment

### **WARNING**

Failure to understand and follow these guidelines as presented in this section could result in damage to the motor home frame or body, could cause unstable driving and handling characteristics, and will restrict your warranty coverage.

manufacturers, trade associations, and publications/books about how to tow.

### ***Dinghy Towing***

When a motorized vehicle is towed behind a motor home with all four tires on the ground, the towed vehicle is often referred to as a “dinghy”. Vehicle manufacturers produce towable cars and trucks that are designed to be capable of being towed behind a larger vehicle, such as a motor home, with all wheels down.

Caution should be exercised when selecting a vehicle for dinghy towing. If not, battery drain on the electrical system could occur, the transmission of the vehicle could be damaged, the vehicle may be too heavy to pull, among other concerns.

Before selecting the vehicle that will be towed, consult the vehicle manufacturers instructions to ensure the vehicle is approved by the manufacturer for dinghy (four wheels down) towing. Any aftermarket products that modify the dinghy for towing should also be approved by the vehicle manufacturer.

Make sure that the dinghy weight and attaching hardware do not exceed the motor home hitch receiver rating. Inspect the trailer hitch towing capacity tag located on the trailer hitch for towing capacities. Do not exceed the displayed capacities. Make sure that the weight of the motor home and dinghy together; do not exceed the gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of the motor home. Make sure that tow bars and hitch equipment is rated to handle the weight of the vehicle you intend to tow.

In addition, the dinghy must be equipped with its own independent auxiliary brake system that is activated any time the motor home brakes are applied.

Because of State/Province regulations, care must be exercised when wiring the dinghy for all lighting requirements.

Check with the DMV of your State and/or States (and Provinces) you will be traveling through

for their requirements.

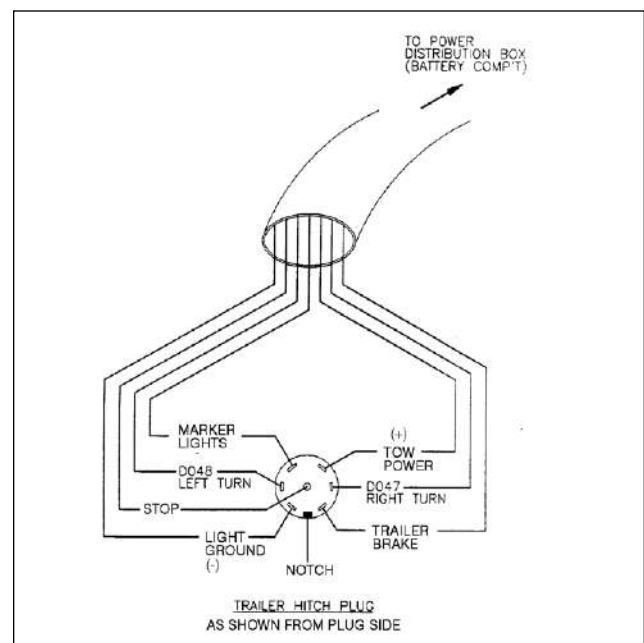
### ***Towed Vehicle Wiring***

Your motor home is equipped with an electrical connector, from here on referred to as a hitch plug, which provides an electrical connection for your towed vehicle. The hitch plug is located at the rear of the motor home near the hitch receiver. It is a 7 position connector wired as follows:

Please note this connector provides separate positions for the two turn signals and brake lights. This is necessary for the towed vehicles that have separate amber turn signals in addition to the red brake lights.

Some towed vehicles will not have amber turn signals separate from the brake lights. They will instead use the same lamp to indicate braking as well as turn signal. Towed vehicles with this type of lighting will not be able to utilize the standard hitch plug on your motor home.

For towed vehicles with this type of lighting you will need to replace your hitch plug. A replacement hitch plug wiring harness is available through Allied Recreation Group’s American Coach Service. This harness replaces your current hitch plug and is easily installed in minutes.



### Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity and Load Distribution



#### NOTE

*The Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity (OCCC) printed on the two tags inside the motor home is per the Factory Weight of the motor home and includes all factory options. Dealer added weight, LCCR, is listed on the same tags in writing and must be subtracted from the printed OCCC to attain the OCCC at the time of first sale. If any other equipment is added after first sale such as leveling jacks, awnings, roof pods, etc., then these items must also reduce the OCCC.*

The occupants and cargo weight you can place in your motor home is the motor home's GVWR minus its current UVW or in other words its maximum capacity minus the current weight of your motor home including fluids such as fuel and propane. When the motor home is being designed, the number and size of storage compartments, the liquid tank capacities and number of belted seating positions are determined for value and convenience. If you fill all liquid tanks to capacity, fill all storage compartments and cupboards to maximum volume and fill all available seating positions with passengers, the motor home could be overloaded. (See **Loading Tips**). Be aware of the weight of the items you store, where you store the items in your motor home, and weigh your motor home after it is fully loaded.

In addition to knowing the overall weight that can be safely loaded in or attached to the motor home, you must know how to distribute the weight so that correct amounts of weight are distributed between the axles or front-to-rear and also between the wheels or side-to-side. (It is also important to place heavier items lower in the motor home or in under the floor storage areas.) If you make the motor home top heavy or much too heavy on one side, the motor home can be overturned and crash in a curve, turn or in an emergency steering maneuver. When the load is properly distributed, your motor home

will handle and respond safely, and you as the driver can be more confident and will be more comfortable.

If your motor home is improperly loaded, it may be unsafe to drive, uncomfortable to drive, or both.

### How to Weigh Your Loaded Motor Home

Refer to your local telephone directory to find a public weigh station. The following procedures will help you determine whether your loaded motor home (complete with cargo, fluids, passengers, and driver) is within GAWR, GVWR, and GCWR limits. When you arrive at a weigh station, the attendant will guide you through the correct positioning of the motor home on the scales.

Your RV must be weighed fully loaded, that is, with passengers, food, clothing, fuel, water, Propane, supplies, etc. Any towed vehicle (car/pickup, boat or trailer) or item loaded on brackets on the back of the RV, such as bikes or motorcycles, should also be included in the weighing.

The following steps are suggested and are illustrated on the following pages:

1. Pull onto the scale so that only the front axle is on the platform (with the end of the scale midway between the front and rear axles), and record the scaled weight.
2. Pull forward until the full unit is on the scale, and record the scaled weight.
3. Pull forward so that only the rear axle is on the scale (again with the edge of the scale midway between the front and rear axles), and record the scaled weight.

If the RV has a rear tag axle, pull forward so that only the tag axle remains on the scale, and record the scaled weight.

To determine individual wheel position weights, it is necessary to repeat the first three steps, but this time, use only one side of the scale, as shown on the following pages.

To calculate the opposite side of the vehicle wheel position weight, subtract this side's weights from the weights recorded in steps 1, 2 and 3. If there is a towed vehicle, proceed to step 4 to obtain the "towed vehicle only" weight.

4. If a boat, trailer or other vehicle is being towed, it should be weighed and combined with the towing vehicle's GVW (Gross Vehicle Weight) to ensure the total weight does not exceed the GCWR (Gross Combined Weight Rating).



## NOTE

*Even though the weight of the total axle may be within the axle's rating, it may be overloaded on one side. This causes one wheel position to be overloaded, therefore, side-to-side weighing is required.*

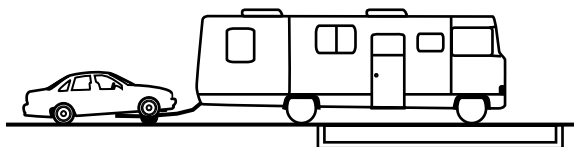
Your RV must remain as level as possible on the scale (even though an axle or side is not physically on the scale). Obviously, to obtain the side-to-side weights, there must be enough space on

either side of the scale to accommodate the RV being partially off the scale. You may desire to use wheel ramps to get the required side-to-side leveling.

If there is a difference in the weights on one side of the vehicle as compared to weights on the other side, components (tires, wheels, brakes, springs, etc.) on the heavier side could be overloaded, even though the total axle load is within the GAWR. It is important to redistribute the load to avoid component failure, as well as to improve the handling characteristics of the vehicle. With these actual weights, it is now possible to compare them against the GAWR, GVWR, and tire capacities. These actual weights are also what should be used to help determine the proper air pressure for the tires. Options to help assist when weighing your motor home include using "truck stop" scales. There is usually a small fee for this service.

## WEIGHING YOUR MOTOR HOME To Obtain Individual Axle and Gross Weights:

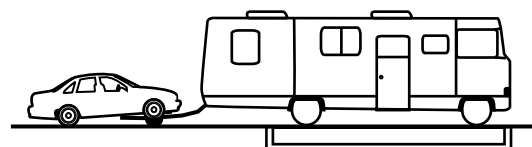
### STEP 1



Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 1 = GAW)

From CCC Label \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
GAWR

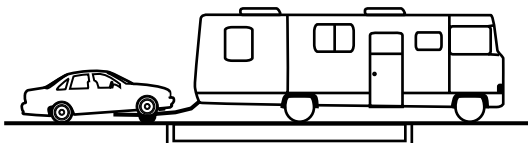
### STEP 2



Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 2 = GVW)

From CCC Label \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
GVWR

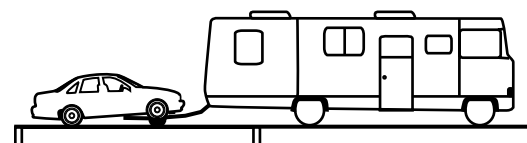
### STEP 3



Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 3 = GAW)

From CCC Label \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
GAWR

### STEP 4



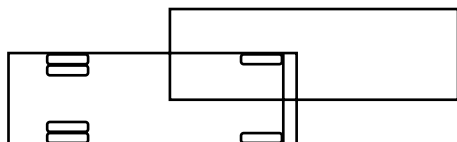
Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 4)

From CCC Label \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
Vehicle Weight  
(GCWR  $\square$  GVW)

## On The Road

### WEIGHING YOUR MOTOR HOME To Obtain Individual Wheel Positions Weights:

#### STEP 1S



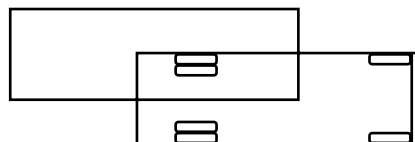
One Side  
Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 1S)

Calculate Other  
Side Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 1 - 1S)

Tire Load (lbs.) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(See Note\*)

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi.  
(See Note\*)

#### STEP 3S



One Side  
Scale Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 3S)

Calculate Other  
Side Weight \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(Step 3 - 3S)

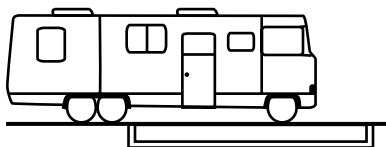
Tire Load (lbs.) \_\_\_\_\_ lbs.  
(See Note\*)

Inflation \_\_\_\_\_ psi.  
(See Note\*)

**\*NOTE:** Refer to the tire load charts published by the tire manufacturer to determine the proper inflation pressures recommended for single and dual axles equipped. Always inflate each axle set to the tire with the higher of the side-to-side loads.

### WEIGHING YOUR TANDEM AXLE MOTOR HOME To Obtain Individual Axle and Gross Vehicle Weights:

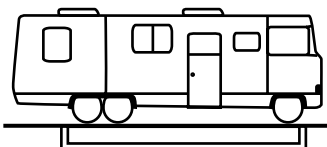
#### STEP 1a



Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 1a = GAW) ☐

From ☐  
Owner's Manual ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ GAWR ☐

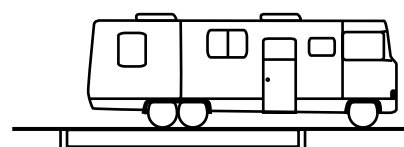
#### STEP 1b



Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 1b = GVW) ☐

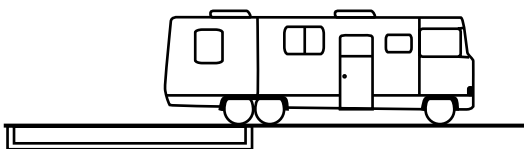
From ☐  
Owner's Manual ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ GVWR ☐

#### STEP 1c



Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 1c) ☐  
☐

#### STEP 1d



Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 1d = GAW) ☐

From ☐  
Owner's Manual ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ GAWR ☐

#### STEP 1e

(Calculated)

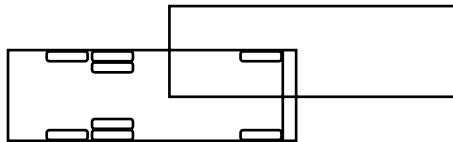
Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ Drive Axle GAW = (1c - 1d) ☐

From ☐  
Owner's Manual ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ GAWR ☐

If pulling a towed vehicle, see "Weighing Your Motor Home," Step 4.

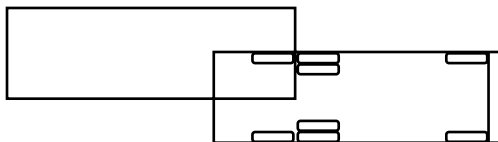
# WEIGHING YOUR TANDEM AXLE MOTOR HOME To Obtain Individual Wheel Positions Weights:

## STEP 2a



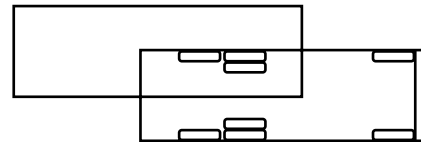
One Side ☐  
Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 2a) ☐  
Calculate Other ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
Side Weight ☐ (Step 1a - 2a) ☐  
☐  
Tire Load (lbs.) ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐  
Inflation ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ psi. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐

## STEP 2c



One Side ☐  
Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 2c) ☐  
Calculate Other ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
Side Weight ☐ (Step 1d - 2c) ☐  
☐  
Tire Load (lbs.) ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐  
Inflation ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ psi. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐

## STEP 2b



One Side ☐  
Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (Step 2b) ☐  
Calculate Other ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
Side Weight ☐ (Step 1c - 2b) ☐  
☐  
☐

## STEP 2d

(Calculated)

One Side ☐  
Scale Weight ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ Step 2d: Right Duals = (2b - 2c) ☐  
Calculate Other ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
Side Weight ☐ Left Duals (1e - 2d) ☐  
☐  
Tire Load (lbs.) ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ lbs. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐  
Inflation ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ psi. ☐  
☐ (See Note\*) ☐

**\*NOTE:** Refer to the tire load charts published by the tire manufacturer to determine the proper inflation pressures recommended for single and dual axles equipped. Always inflate each axle set to the tire with the higher of the side-to-side loads.

## Dangers of Overloading

Do not overload your RV. In addition to possible problems with tires, wheels, and springs, there can be problems of brake failure, drivetrain failure, wheel bearing failure, etc. Moreover, an overloaded RV uses more fuel, is harder to handle, and can lead to driver fatigue. If any component should fail, it could result in vehicle damage and/or loss of vehicle control. In addition to the above dangers, there are some

states that require certain motor homes and RVs to utilize the Highway Patrol's weight scales to check for overloaded axle weights. Citations can be issued to violators.

Since you may load your motor home differently for different trips, loading and weight patterns will change. Periodically reweigh your motor home and log the weights in this chapter. Refer to your log as you prepare to load for future trips.

### Loading Tips

- *Do not load heavy items on the bumpers.*
- *Make a loading diagram of your properly loaded motor home, and then weigh the properly loaded motor home. The loading diagram, your loading log and the loaded motor home weight will help you locate where specific items are stored, and will help speed the loading process.*
- *Secure and brace items so they won't move during travel. Generally, load heavier items lower.*
- *Fresh water and waste water weigh over eight pounds per gallon. Carry only as much water as needed for travel use or to balance the load, and whenever practical, empty the holding tanks before traveling.*
- *Store emergency items in a readily accessible location. As a minimum include a fire extinguisher, tools, first aid kit, rain gear, flashlight, highway warning devices, an electric cord with light, and sturdy*

#### **WARNING**

Modification of your vehicle by addition of racks not originally equipped by the manufacturer to carry additional equipment, vehicles or cargo will reduce your warranty coverage and may cause personal injury or property damage.

#### **WARNING**

Do not store or carry Propane containers, gasoline, or other flammable liquids inside your motor home.

*gloves.*

### TIRES

Your motor home is equipped with wheels and tires selected to match the capacity specifications of the chassis as designed by the chassis manufacturer. Under normal circumstances and with proper tire and chassis maintenance, you should receive thousands of miles of trouble-free service.

Some motor homes accumulate relatively few miles and therefore the tire age from the date of manufacture, not mileage, may become the main tire life determining factor. Motor home tires normally have a life of 5-7 years, depending on mileage. However, American Coach recommends periodic tire inspection by a reputable tire dealer regardless of tread depth.



#### **NOTE**

*When parking your motor home for an extended time, in storage or camping, you can extend tire life by parking each tire on a piece of plywood approximately 12 inches square.*

### Tire Inflation

For safety and maximum tire life, vehicle speeds must be proper, proper inflation pressure must be maintained, and tread depth and wear must be monitored. Properly inflated and maintained tires also contribute to overall motor home stability and safety. Refer to the tire section in your *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* or any tire manufacturer's information that may be provided in your *Owners' Information Package* for information on maintenance and tire care. If no information is provided please contact your local tire manufacturer's location for advice.

The maximum cold inflation pressures are stated on the tire sidewall. The recommended maximum tire inflation pressure your coach is shown on the Federal Certification Tag located on the sidewall near the driver's seat. To maximize tire performance, consult with the tire manufacturer's guidelines or *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* for recommended tire inflation pressure.

### Tire Rotation

Your tires can be rotated for increased tire wear. The front tires should only be rotated side-to-side only and never "front to back". The rear tires should only be rotated side-to-side on the rear axle only and never front to back. Seek professional help with tire rotation at an authorized dealership.



## NOTE

*The tire pressures on your motor home were adjusted at the factory to the tire pressures specified on the Federal certification tag.*

*These pressures are specified at full gross vehicle weight and should be reset to match the weight of your motor home.*

*For maximum performance, tire manufacturers provide tire inflation pressure charts so you can match the tire pressures to the loads on your motor home.*

*For additional tire pressure information, consult the **Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual**.*



## WARNING

For safety and maximum tire life, check and adjust tire pressure (including the spare, if equipped) at the beginning of each trip and daily during the trip. Pay special attention to inside rear duals. Always check pressure when tires are cold, and do not bleed air out of warm tires. Follow the tire pressure instructions in the Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual or the tire manufacturer's tire pressure chart.



## NOTE

*American Coach recommends using a high quality tire pressure gauge for accurate, repeatable pressure readings.*



## NOTE

*Check the wheel lug nut tightness periodically. They could work loose during driving. Check the **Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual** for correct lug nut torque and torquing procedure, and schedule.*

## Air Pressure and Air Pressure Monitoring System

The most important factor in maximizing the life of your tires is maintaining proper inflation. Driving on a tire that does not have the correct inflation pressure for the load of the vehicle is dangerous and may cause premature wear, tire damage, and/or loss of control of the vehicle.

A tire that is underinflated will build up excessive heat that may go beyond the prescribed limits of endurance of the rubber and the radial cords. This could result in sudden tire failure. A tire that is underinflated could also cause poor vehicle

handling, rapid and/or irregular tire wear, or an increase in rolling resistance which results in a decrease in its fuel economy.

Over inflation will reduce the tire's footprint or contact patch with the road, thus reducing the traction, braking capacity, and handling of the vehicle. A tire that is overinflated for the load that it is carrying will also contribute to a harsh ride, uneven tire wear, and will be more susceptible to impact damage.

Maintaining correct tire inflation pressure for each loaded wheel position on your vehicle is of the utmost importance and must be a part of regular vehicle maintenance.

Federal law requires that the tire's maximum load rating be molded into the sidewall of the tire. If you look on your tire's sidewall you'll see the maximum load allowed for the size tire and load rating, and the minimum cold air inflation pressure needed to carry that stated maximum load. Utilizing less air pressure means a lesser load can be carried by the tire. Another method of determining the maximum tire pressure is to review the Federal Certification Tag. This tag is located on the interior side wall by the driver's seat. Other information regarding tires and vehicle weights is also included on this tag.

The amount of air pressure you need to use depends on the weight of your fully-loaded vehicle. So, you cannot determine your correct air pressure unless you know your vehicle's actual weights.

Your vehicle may be equipped with an on-board "tire pressure monitoring" system. The individual tire pressures are displayed on the monitor when the feature is selected. This tire pressure air monitoring system is to be used for "Reference Only". To accurately determine the individual tire pressure a reliable and calibrated gage in good working condition should be used. Consult your Federal Certification Tag for proper tire inflation pressures. Follow the guidelines in this owner's manual for checking air tire pressure. Consult your monitor system's owners manual for additional information.



### ***Underinflation***

When an underinflated tire is run at normal highway speeds, it flexes too much and builds up heat. This heat damages the inner liner, casing and outer sidewall of the tire. If not remedied quickly, the tire will be irreparably damaged.

In extreme cases, the sidewall of the tire is destroyed, both from the excessive heat it endured due to the weight of the vehicle pressing on the tire casing without the cushioning load carrying effect of the correct air pressure, and the crushing/cutting action of the wheel as it rolls on the underinflated sidewall. According to guidelines put out by the Rubber Manufacturers Association (RMA), any tire that has been run at less than 80% of recommended air pressure for the load it is carrying should be inspected for possible damage.

When one tire in a dual configuration comes out of service due to underinflation damage, the other tire in the dual configuration should be inspected immediately. If the unserviceable tire was underinflated, that means the serviceable tire was carrying more and more of the load for that wheel position. Consequently, it too may have suffered some casing damage due to overloading.

### ***Air Pressure Check***

You should check the air pressure every two weeks or at least once each month and before any trip. Your RV tires' air pressure should be checked every "drive" morning on long trips. On short trips of a day or less driving each way, your tires should be checked before you leave on your trip and again before you start your trip home.

Check your tires when they are "cold" and have not been driven for more than one mile. The stated load capacity for a given cold inflation pressure is based on ambient outside temperature. If you must check your tires when they are warm or hot, do allow for a slight increase in air pressure and make sure they are within a couple of pounds of each other on the same axle.

Frequently check tires. If a tire picks up a nail or screw that creates a slow leak and causes some air pressure loss, you might eventually spot it visually if it is a front tire. If it is an outside rear dual, you might also spot it with a visual inspection. However, if it is an inside rear dual, the chances of spotting it without an air pressure check are very slim. If you begin driving without finding it, very quickly (in most cases a few miles) your outside rear tire next to the low air pressure tire is going to heat up from carrying double its load, which if left un-remedied will eventually will cause both tires to fail.

### ***Tire Replacement***

Replacement tires must be the same size, type and tread depth per axle, and have at least the same weight carrying capacity as the original equipment. Tires supplied by various manufacturers of the same size and rating may not have the same weight carrying capacity and maximum cold inflation pressures. Consult your tire dealer. The original equipment wheels and tires supplied on your motor home have weight carrying capacities to support Gross Axle Weight Ratings (GAWR) as stated on the Federal Certification Tag attached in the driver's compartment.



#### ***NOTE***

*Per Department of Transportation regulation, all tires are to be "stamped" with their weight rating, size, maximum inflation pressure and manufacturing date. Use this information to assist in tire replacement.*

### ***If You Get a Flat Tire***



#### ***NOTE***

*The motor home will tend to "pull" toward the side with the flat tire.*

In case of sudden tire failure:

- ***Apply the accelerator to maintain directional stability, then gradually release the accelerator.***
- ***Use moderate brake pedal pressure. Do not pump the brake. The vehicle is***

*equipped with Anti-lock Brakes (ABS) which will help control braking.*

- *Firmly hold the steering wheel while avoiding abrupt steering inputs and move slowly to a safe place.*
- *Park on a firm level surface.*
- *Turn off the ignition.*
- *Set the parking brake.*
- *Turn on the hazard flasher system.*
- *Ensure your passengers are safely located and children monitored.*
- *Get professional roadside assistance.*

### Changing a Flat Tire

Even with good tire maintenance and normal driving, you may experience a flat tire. Summon professional help through your auto club, travel service, or a local truck service facility. Your motor home is not equipped with a jack or other lifting device. Do not attempt to lift the motor home with a jack. Consult the *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/ Manual* for additional information on tire inflation and proper torque or the leveling system.

#### **WARNING**

Wheels and tires equipped with your motor home are extremely heavy and may weigh 100 pounds or more. Do not attempt to remove the spare tire (if equipped) unless you are capable of handling the weight.

#### **WARNING**

To avoid personal injury and/or property damage if a blowout or other tire damage occurs, obtain expert tire service help. Do not attempt to change the tire yourself.

### SEATS AND SEAT BELTS

Seat belts help to restrain you and your passengers in case of a collision. In most states, the law requires their use.

Seat belts provide the best restraint when:

- *the seat back is upright*
- *the occupant is sitting upright (not slouching)*
- *the lap belt is snug and low on the hips*
- *the shoulder belt is snug against the chest*
- *the knees are straight forward*

#### **WARNING**

Make sure that you and your passengers, including pregnant women, wear safety belts. Be sure that lap belts fit snugly and as low as possible around the hips. If safety belts are not used properly, the risk of you or your passengers being injured in a collision greatly increases.

For your safety, your vehicle has combination lap and shoulder belts for the driver and front seat passenger and lap belts without retractors in all other designated seating positions.

Always drive and ride with your seatback upright and the lap belt snug and low across the hips to reduce the risk of serious injury to the abdomen or neck that could be caused by sliding under the safety belts in a collision.

Never let a passenger hold a child on his or her lap while the vehicle is moving. The passenger cannot protect the child from injury in a collision. Refer to sections on *Safety Restraints for Children* and *Safety Belts for Children*.

Never use a single belt for more than one person or across more than one seating position. This greatly increases the risk that one or both of the people will be injured in a collision. Each designated seating position in your vehicle has a specific seat belt assembly which is made up of one buckle and one tongue that are designed to be used as a pair.

### *Combination Lap and Shoulder Belts*

While your vehicle is in motion, the combination lap and shoulder belt adjusts to your movement.

## On The Road

### **WARNING**

Use the shoulder belt on the outside shoulder only. Never wear the shoulder belt under the arm. Never swing it around the neck over the inside shoulder. Failure to follow these precautions could increase the risk and/or severity of injury in an accident.

However, if you brake hard, corner hard or if your vehicle receives an impact, the lap and shoulder belt locks and prevents you from moving.

To fasten the belt, pull the lap/shoulder belt from the retractor so that the shoulder portion of the belt crosses your shoulder and chest. Insert the belt tongue into the proper buckle until you hear a snap and feel it latch. (For more details on seat belt usage, see Manufacturers Usage Manual).

To tighten the lap portion of the belt, pull up on the shoulder belt until it fits you snugly. The lap portion belt should rest as low on your hips as possible.

In the event a longer seat belt is desired contact your local authorized American Coach dealer for assistance.

### ***Safety Belt Maintenance***

Check your safety belt system periodically to make sure that it works properly and isn't damaged. If the webbing shows any wear, nicks or cuts, have it examined by a qualified technician to determine if replacement is necessary. Always have your safety belt system checked after a collision.

### ***Safety Restraints for Children***

In most states, you are required by law to use safety restraints for children. If small children ride in your vehicle, you must put them in safety seats that are made specially for children. Safety belts alone do not provide maximum protection for these children. Check your local and state laws for specific requirements.

Safety belts and seats can become hot in a vehicle that has been closed up in sunny weather, and could burn a child. Check seat

covers and buckles before you place a child anywhere near them.

Children who are too large for child safety seats should always wear safety belts.

### **WARNING**

Never leave a child unattended in your vehicle. Always remove the key from the ignition and take it with you.

### ***Safety Belts for Children***

If the shoulder belt cannot be properly positioned so that it does not cross or rest in front of the child's face or neck, move the child to one of the seats with a lap belt only and use the lap belt.

Lap belts and the lap portion of lap and shoulder belts should always be worn snugly and below the hips, touching the child's thighs.

### **WARNING**

If safety belts are not properly worn and adjusted as described, the risk of serious injury to the child in a collision will be much greater.

Children should use forward or rearward facing seat positions, not seated facing sideways.

Children should always ride with the seatback in the fully upright position. When the seatback is not fully upright, there is a greater risk that the child will slide under the safety belt and be seriously injured in a collision.

Use a safety seat that is recommended for the size and weight of the child. Seat backs should be upright for use with child safety seats. Any objects in close proximity which may come into contact with the child in the event of an accident or sudden stop should be removed.

### **WARNING**

Place child safety seats only in forward facing (locked) seating positions equipped with a restraint system.

## **WARNING**

Carefully follow all of the manufacturer's instructions that come with the safety seat that you put in your vehicle. Make sure that the shoulder belt (if provided at the seating position where the safety seat is being used) does not cross or rest in front of the child's face or neck. If you do not install and use the safety seat properly, the child may be injured in a sudden stop or collision.

## **WARNING**

When using any infant or child restraint system, it is important that you follow the instructions and warnings provided by the manufacturer concerning its installation and use. Failure to follow the restraint manufacturer's instructions could increase the risk or severity of an injury in the event of a collision or sudden stop.

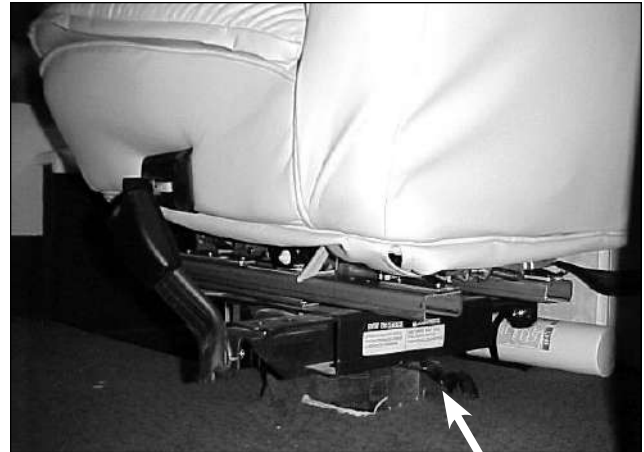
### ***Child Seat Tethers (If Equipped)***

Some child seat manufacturers recommend the use of a top anchorage (tether) strap in addition to the lap belt. Since a top anchorage (tether) strap can provide additional security to a child seat, we recommend using a tether whenever one is required or available.

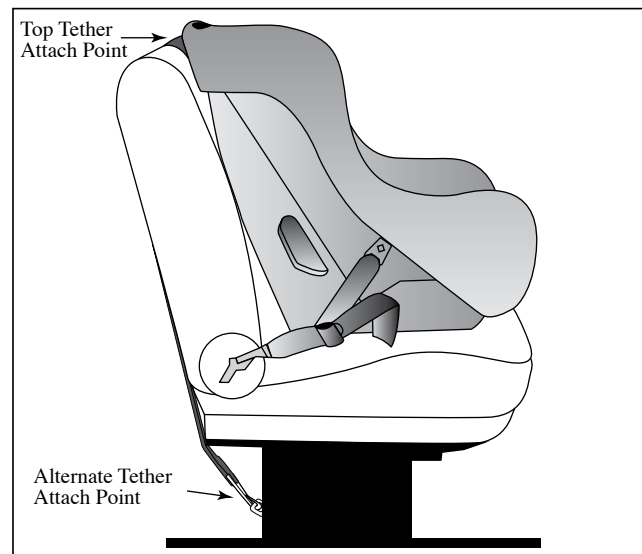
Your motor home may be equipped with a child seat top anchorage (tether) strap anchorage point in the forward passenger seat location.

You can visually identify the anchorage hardware by inspecting the lower rear of the passenger or secondary seat. A small metal anchorage loop will be present which will allow the tether strap hook to engage (see Illustration 1).

To use, with the seat in position, drape the tether strap over the seat back and down (see Illustration 2). Attach the tether strap hook to the tether anchorage point and tighten the strap according to the child seat manufacturers instructions. Make sure the strap is not twisted and that the forward facing seat is always positioned upright and locked in the forward facing position when the motor home is in motion.



*Illustration 1*



*Illustration 2*

## **WARNING**

An incorrectly anchored tether strap could lead to seat failure and injury to the child. In a collision, the seat could come loose and allow the child to crash into the inside of the vehicle or other passengers, or even be thrown from the vehicle. Use only the specified anchor positions to secure a child restraint requiring top tether strap(s).

### ***AIR BAGS (If Equipped)*** ***Air Bag Supplemental Restraint System (SRS)***

If your RV is equipped with Air Bag Supplemental Restraint System (SRS), please

## On The Road

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refer to your *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* for any instructions supplied by the chassis manufacturer with respect to this system.

### DRIVING AND VEHICLE CONTROL

Driving your motor home will be different from driving your family car or truck. Your motor home is large and heavy. You may have to adjust or learn new driving techniques to safely operate your motor home.

Downhill driving puts extra strain on many drivetrain components of your motor home. The brakes are easily overloaded and overheated when used for downhill slowing. Brake fade will occur if the brakes overheat.

When driving down long grades, shift the transmission to a lower gear at the top of the grade. Rule of thumb: *Use the same lowest gear going down as it took to go up the hill.* Crest the hill in the lower gear. Monitor your speed.

#### ***Using the Engine to Slow the Motor Home***

To use the engine as a braking force, select the next lower gear. Engine braking provides good speed control for going down grades. When the motor home is heavily loaded, towing or the grade is steep, preselection of a lower gear prior to the grade may be desirable.

***Gear preselection*** means the selection of a lower gear to match the driving conditions you encounter or expect to encounter. Preselection will give you better control on slick or icy roads and on downgrades. Downshifting to lower gears increases engine braking. The selection of a lower gear often prevents cycling between a gear and the next higher gear on a series of short up-and-down hills.

### MANEUVERING IN TRAFFIC

Be cautious when maneuvering to allow for the length and width of the vehicle. Always allow room to corner and to change lanes.

Your vehicle's side view mirrors and rear view camera monitor (if equipped) will help you keep aware of your vehicle's position and the position of other vehicles and/or obstructions near your motor home. You must monitor them constantly while you are driving. Become familiar with the operation of the side mirrors and learn to use them to view objects and the road beside and behind the motor home.

The rear view mirrors are controlled from a panel located on the driver's left side instrument panel. Mirrors should be adjusted prior to operation of your vehicle in traffic. To adjust the mirrors, select either LEFT or RIGHT mirror and press the appropriate arrow. Activate the mirror heaters (if equipped) by pressing the HEATER position.

Remember that your motor home is heavier than a car, making it less maneuverable and harder to stop. Also, because of its greater side surface area, it is more easily affected by cross winds. Allow extra distances for passing and stopping.



#### **NOTE**

*Although your motor home is equipped with power steering, the front wheels may be difficult to turn when at a dead stop. When maneuvering in some close situations, give yourself some room to move either forward or backward. The vehicle has to be in motion for the front wheels to be turned with ease.*

Driving on winding or mountain roads is not difficult if done with reasonable care. Observe proper vehicle speeds when ascending or descending hills and always operate in the proper transmission range. Downshift on hills to avoid overheating or undue engine loads. Downshift when descending grades.

Engine compression and friction will help control vehicle speed, and relieve some of the strain on the brakes. Shift the transmission to a lower gear before starting down the grade.

Mountain driving or desert temperatures can put extreme demands on drive train components. Under extreme heat conditions you may need to turn off the vehicle air conditioner to improve engine and transmission cooling.

Be aware of the extra height of your motor home. Check for low hanging tree branches or other obstructions whenever you drive or park. Avoid low overhangs when pulling in for service. Always check overhead clearances of overpasses and bridges. ***This may be particularly important if you drive with the overhead vents open or if the motor home is equipped with a roof air conditioner, roof rack, CB or TV/radio/satellite antenna.***

Before leaving on a trip, check your route. Some tunnels prohibit motor homes with Propane systems.

When parking parallel to a curb, be sure to allow for poles or obstructions as the front and rear portions of the motor home swing wider than an automobile. When parking on an incline, turn the front wheels into the curb in the direction of the roll to aid the parking brake.

When parking, always shift the transmission to “N” and set the parking brake.

If you can’t avoid operating, parking or idling your vehicle off-road:

- ***Be aware that combustible materials could catch fire from the vehicle’s hot exhaust system.***
- ***Avoid driving your vehicle through or over combustible materials such as leaves, grass, vegetation or stubble high enough to touch, catch or collect on its hot exhaust system.***
- ***Parking or idling should be done only in an area where there are no combustible materials under the vehicle.***

## WARNING

Do not park or idle the motor home over combustible materials such as tall grass or dried leaves. Combustible materials may catch fire from the hot exhaust gases, soot or sparks that could escape through corrosion holes or cracks. This is particularly important if the exhaust system has not been properly maintained.

## REAR VIEW VIDEO MONITOR (If Equipped)

Your ***Owner’s Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning the system.

### CAUTION

The rear view video monitor system provides a general view of the road and objects to the rear of the motor home. Your perception of this view and the relationships of objects to the motor home and each other will be different from that seen in a rear view mirror. Light conditions and the adjustment of the screen controls will also affect your perception. Always use the side-mounted rear view mirrors with the video monitor system.

### NOTE

*Be careful not to scratch the monitor or camera lenses when cleaning. Use only household glass cleaner and a soft cloth. Wipe gently and dry thoroughly. Also, do not spray glass cleaner directly on the monitor lens located inside your vehicle, because the cleaner could leak inside the unit and cause damage.*

## EXTERIOR SIDE CAMERA SYSTEM (If Equipped)

Refer to ***Owner’s Information Package*** for operating instructions.

## GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM NAVIGATION (GPS) (If Equipped)

Your motor home is equipped with a Global Positioning Navigation System.

Your ***Owner’s Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning the system.

## TRIP/ENGINE COMPUTER

Your motor home is equipped with a “Driver’s Information Center”. The motor home will have one color display screen located in the dash.

Your ***Driver’s Information Center*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning the system.

### **WARNING**

Programming the GPS navigation system while you are driving can distract your attention from the road and possibly cause an accident. Enter the information into the system yourself only when the vehicle is stopped.

The directions provided by the system are suggestions only. The driver is ultimately responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle and therefore evaluate whether it is safe to follow these directions. Always use good judgment and common sense.

## BODY UNDERCOATING

Certain chassis and underbody components of your motor home have been coated with an under-coating material. This material is intended to assist in protecting these components from corrosion or other effects of weather and road conditions. Please be aware that certain areas of the motor home do not have undercoating applied, in keeping with good engineering practice, and to meet the requirements of chassis manufacturers.

## FUEL AND FUEL SYSTEMS

See the *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* in the *Owner's Information Package* for chassis engine fuel recommendations. The standard generator is designed to run on the same fuel as the chassis engine. Consult the generator operating instructions for special cautions about maintenance with different types of fuels.

Modern fuel systems may build up vapor pressure within the tank as the fuel warms during use or hot weather. Under certain conditions, sudden release of this pressure when removing the fuel cap can cause fuel to spray from the fill opening, creating a fire hazard.

To protect the fuel system from excessive pressure or vacuum, or from sudden release of pressure, replace lost or damaged fuel fill caps

### **WARNING**

When removing the fuel fill cap, rotate it slowly only far enough to allow the pressure to release. After any "hissing" sound stops, remove the cap completely.

with caps of the same design which are available from your American Coach motor home dealer.

Clean up fuel spills immediately. Fuel spilled on the motor home could damage the exterior finish, and is a serious fire hazard.



### **NOTE**

*Fuel for the generator is taken from the main fuel tank through a special feeder tube which is higher in the tank than the feeder tube to the motor home engine. This arrangement prevents the generator from running the motor home fuel tank dry.*

## Fuel Types and Driveability Issues

Your motor home's automotive fuel and emissions systems are sophisticated and engineered to meet Federal and State emissions standards. They are sometimes sensitive to fuel types and blends, particularly fuels blended for certain altitudes and climates. Fuel suppliers provide customers with the correct fuel for their location and seasonal conditions. Sometimes, though, fuel blended for winter is supplied during summer months. To determine which fuel your vehicles uses, check the fuel fill door or adjacent surrounding area for a federally mandated sticker. This sticker will specify that only use "Ultra Low Sulphur Fuel" as the required fuel for your diesel engine.



### **NOTE**

*Refer to your Chassis Operation's/Owners Guide/Manual for additional information on other fluids that may be required to operate your vehicle.*

## API Refueling Advisory

The American Petroleum Institute (API) offers the following consumer advisory and safety guidelines on vehicle refueling to help consumers avoid potential problems with refueling and static electricity.

One of many possible causes of static electricity build-up is reentering your vehicle during refueling, particularly in cool or cold and dry climate conditions. This can cause a build-up of static electricity similar to shuffling your feet on the carpet when the air in your home is dry. If

you return from your vehicle interior to remove the filling nozzle without discharging the static build-up, in rare circumstances, a brief flash fire could occur at the filling point if the static discharges and the resulting spark ignites fuel vapors around the fill spout.

A simple precaution to help avoid this potential problem is to stay near the vehicle's fueling point. Do not get back into your vehicle during refueling – even when using the nozzle's automatic hold-open latch. If you must reenter your vehicle, discharge the static electricity build-up when you get out by touching the outside metal portion of your vehicle, away from the filling point, before attempting to remove the nozzle.

### ENGINE FAN

When the engine is under load or requires maximum cooling, the engine fan turns faster. The fan may become noisy at high speed and when maximum cooling is required. High speed fan noise can sometimes be misinterpreted as transmission slippage. This is not the case. This fan noise indicates that the fan is doing what it is supposed to do. This noise is not a defect in the fan or the transmission. Vibration from the fan is sometimes interrupted as tire and wheel vibration. This is not the case. When the fan shuts off the vibration should disappear.

### EXHAUST SYSTEM HEAT

Your motor home engine has been designed to conform to Federal and State emission requirements. To meet these requirements, engine operating temperatures are high. As a result, the engine, transmission and exhaust systems radiate heat.

Heat shields are built into your motor home to protect wiring and other components from possible heat damage caused by the exhaust system. Do not remove these shields, modify the exhaust system, or add additional equipment, such as wiring, plumbing, or other components, which may be effected by exhaust system heat. Be sure to inspect your motor homes exhaust system at a minimum of once per year.

During the inspection the exhaust system should be checked for leaks, loose clamps, missing or damaged components or other irregularities that have the potential to create an exhaust leak.

Have your dealer inspect the exhaust system and make the recommended repairs before using your motor home.

### ENGINE TEMPERATURE GAUGES

Engine temperature gauges typically have been calibrated to indicate a midrange reading as the “normal” operating temperature. As a motor home owner, be aware that the gauge is intended to provide a warning of any rapid change in engine coolant temperature from the “normal” reading of the gauge rather than an absolute temperature reading.

## WARNING

### IMPORTANT HEALTH NOTICE

Some of the building materials used in this recreation vehicle emit formaldehyde. Eye, nose, and throat irritation, headache, nausea, and a variety of asthma-like symptoms, including shortness of breath, have been reported as a result of formaldehyde exposure, elderly persons and young children, as well as anyone with a history of asthma, allergies, or lung problems, may be at greater risk, research is continuing on the possible long-term effects of exposure to formaldehyde.

Reduced ventilation may allow formaldehyde and other contaminants to accumulate in the indoor air. Dilution of indoor contaminants may be obtained by ventilating the motor home by opening vents, windows, and doors as well as by operating air conditioning, if available.

High indoor temperatures and humidity raise formaldehyde levels, when a motor home is to be located in areas subject to extreme summer temperatures, an air-conditioning system can be used to control indoor temperature levels.

If you have any questions regarding the health effects of formaldehyde, consult your doctor or local health department.



### CARBON MONOXIDE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, tasteless, odorless gas. It is a by-product of the burning of fossil fuels (gasoline, Propane, diesel fuel, etc.). The chassis and generator engines, furnaces, water heater, Propane refrigerator and range in your motor home produce it constantly while they are operating. ***CARBON MONOXIDE IS DEADLY.*** Please read and understand the following precautions to protect yourself and others from the effects of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Beware of the symptoms of exhaust gas (carbon monoxide) poisoning:

***Dizziness***

***Vomiting***

***Nausea***

***Muscular twitching***

***Intense headache***

***Throbbing in temples***

***Weakness and sleepiness***

***Inability to think clearly***

If you or others experience any of these symptoms, get out into fresh air immediately. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention. Shut down the unit and do not operate it until it has been inspected and repaired.

#### **WARNING**

When operating the on-board generator for electrical power and using the overhead vent fan, regardless of outside temperature, open a window "slightly". This will reduce the chances of drawing harmful Carbon Monoxide into the passenger compartment.

#### **WARNING**

Do not under any circumstances operate any engine or the cooking stove or range while sleeping. You would not be able to monitor outside conditions to assure that engine exhaust does not enter the interior, and you would not be alert to exhaust odors or symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

#### **WARNING**

Exhaust gases are deadly. Do not block the tail-pipes, or exhaust ports, or situate the vehicle in a place where the exhaust gases have any possibility of accumulating either outside, underneath, or inside your vehicle or any nearby vehicles. Outside air movements can carry exhaust gases inside the vehicle through windows or other openings remote from the exhaust outlet. Operate the engine(s), carbon monoxide-producing systems or components only when safe dispersion of exhaust gases can be assured. Monitor outside conditions to be sure that exhaust continues to be dispersed safely.

### ***Carbon Monoxide Detector/Alarm***

Your motor home is equipped with a carbon monoxide (CO) detector/alarm.

If the detector/alarm sounds, it is an indication that unacceptable levels of carbon monoxide gas are present. This may occur in traffic concentrations or in campgrounds where other vehicles as well as your motor home are contributing to the carbon monoxide level in the surrounding air. Sounding of the detector/alarm does not indicate a faulty detector/alarm. The detector/alarm is doing its job of warning you of potentially high concentrations of carbon monoxide.

Test the CO detector/alarm after the motor home has been in storage, before each trip, and at least once a week during use. Please refer to the materials included in your ***Owner's Information Package.***

## EMERGENCY TOWING

### CAUTION

Do not tow the motor home from the rear. Towing from the rear will cause serious overloading of the front tires and suspension, possibly resulting in tire or front suspension failure. The rear frame extensions are not designed to withstand the load imposed by lifting from the rear.

The preferred emergency towing methods are either an under reach wheel lift device or a flat bed trailer. Most tow truck operators willing to tow motor homes will be familiar with these devices. Be prepared to give the tow truck operator at least the following information when you call:

*Length and height of motor home*

*Chassis manufacturer*

*Gross vehicle weight rating.*

### WARNING

**DO NOT** crawl under or place any part of your body under a vehicle that is being lifted. Stand clear of all towing equipment and the vehicle being lifted.

The vehicle must be towed from the front, either on the rear wheels (if operational) or on a heavy duty dolly. Consult your *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* for any available instructions. Contact the chassis assistance center prior to calling a tow company to receive tow instructions and possible assistance with coordinating the tow.

### CAUTION

Remove the axle shafts or disconnect the drive line before towing the motor home.

To prepare your motor home for towing:

1. The rear axle shafts or the drive line **MUST** be removed before towing. See the *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual*.
2. Secure any loose or protruding parts of the disabled vehicle, if any.
3. Secure all heavy or loose items in the interior.
4. Turn off Propane appliances and the Propane tank valve.
5. Do not allow any person to ride in the towed vehicle.

### CAUTION

The air brake system and air suspension system may require recharging with air before towing to release the brakes and provide proper ride height. An air inlet fitting is located in the front road side compartment or under the front hood. Tow truck operators should be equipped to re-charge these air systems.

**Spartan Motors Chassis  
Customer Assistance:  
800-543-4277**

## WINDSHIELD WIPERS & WASHERS

Your motor home is equipped with windshield wipers. It is important to have the proper windshield washer solution to maintain your system in good operating order.

### CAUTION

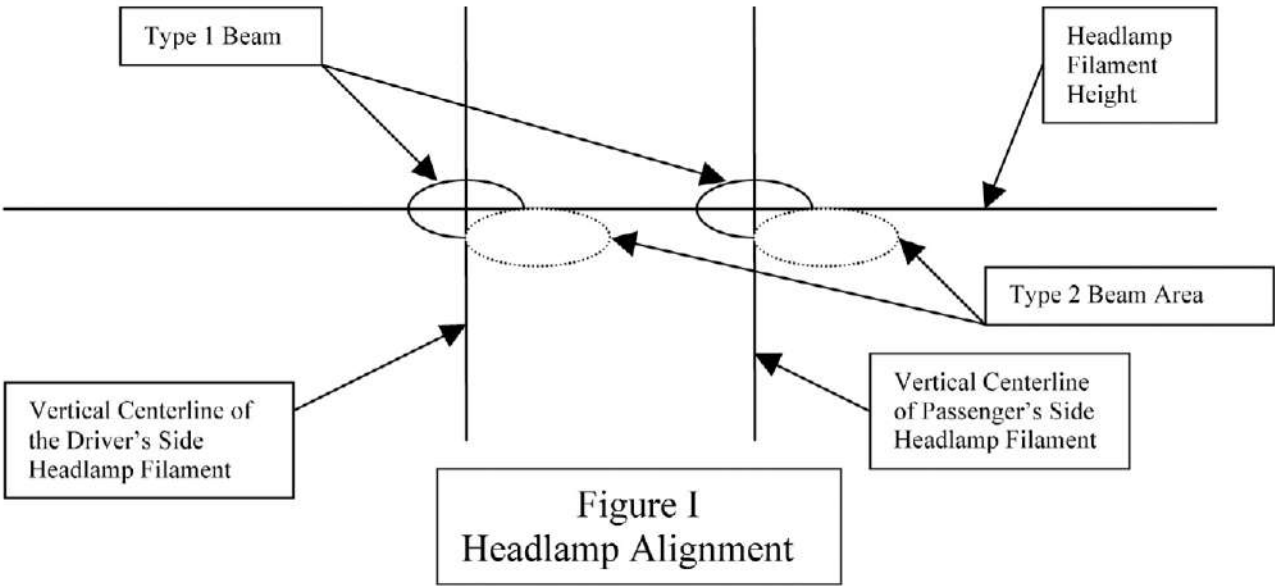
Use only a windshield washer solution that is rated for a minimum of -20 degrees F (-8 degrees C) to prevent damage to the system from freezing up.

### MANUAL HEADLAMP AIMING PROCEDURE

#### CAUTION

The following procedure is not a substitute for having the head lamps professionally aligned by a certified head lamp alignment professional to the Society of Automobile Engineering standards. Improper head lamp alignment may result in poor visibility during reduced light conditions and may result in an accident.

1. Ensure your vehicle is loaded to your specific “travel and camping” conditions.
2. Remove all snow, ice, dirt and other debris that may affect the ride height of the vehicle.
3. Find a flat area at least the length of your motor home plus 7.62 meters (25 ft) with a vertical flat surface that is at least 3.0 m (10 ft) by 3.0 (10 ft) at one end (a driveway and garage door could be used).
4. Measure 7.62 m (25 ft) and position the motor home so the headlamps are 7.62 m from the vertical flat surface and secure by placing in park or Neutral and setting the parking brakes.
5. Inspect your headlamp system and determine if it is a “Type 1” or “Type 2” system. A Type 1 system has a separate HI and LOW beam and uses four lamps. A Type 2 system can be identified by locating the number “2” embossed on the lens of the lamp.
6. Measure the height from the ground to the center of the low beam filament of the driver’s side headlamp. Project this height in an exact straight line to the vertical surface 7.62 m away from the motor home. Mark the height of the filament and center line on the vertical surface. This will have set up a “coordinate system” for projecting the headlamp’s beam on the vertical surface.
7. Repeat step 5 for the passenger’s side headlamp.
8. Activate the head lamp system. Using Figure 1 below the projected beam on the vertical surface is to be located as follows.
  - a. Type 1 Head lamps: The projected beam should be centered vertically and horizontally on the vertical surface as marked in step 6 and 7.
  - b. Type 2 Head lamps: The top edge of the projected beam is to even with a horizontal line parallel to a line formed by the two head lamp filament centers and to the right of the vertical center line of each head lamp.
9. If the head lamps do not meet the alignment criteria adjust the “Vertical “and/or “Horizontal” positioning as shown on the attached figure, rotate the knobs and/or screws on the head lamp. When turning the knobs and/or screws watch the direction in which the projected beam moves to help understand which direction on the beam moves in relation to turning each.
10. Remember, this procedure is only a guideline and is not a substitute for having head lamps professionally aligned.



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# LIVING WITH YOUR MOTOR HOME

## LEVELING SYSTEM (If Equipped)

Controls for the leveling system are located in the driver's compartment. A detailed operating and maintenance guide is included in your *Owner's Information Package*. Read all instructions for this system carefully before operating the system.

### WARNING

The leveling system is designed as a leveling system only. Do not use the system as a jack or with a jack. Do not attempt to raise the tires off the ground. The system should be used to raise the recreational vehicle to the lowest level position possible.

## POWER ENTRY STEP (If Equipped)

The power entry step is controlled by a magnetic entry door position switch, the engine ignition switch and by an override switch located near the entry door. Power for the entry step is supplied by the chassis battery (or batteries). The battery system must be connected (battery dis-connect in the "ON" position) for the entry step to operate.

The entry step will typically extend and retract with the opening and closing of the entry door as controlled by the entry door position switch (function is automatic). Activating the override switch will move the entry step to the extended position, and it will stay there regardless of whether the door is open or closed. Regardless of the override switch position, activation of the ignition key with the entry door closed will retract the entry step. This helps to prevent inadvertently driving off with the entry step extended. The switches operate the entry step according to the following table.

### WARNING

Always look and be sure the step is extended before entering or exiting the motor home.

### WARNING

If door is quickly opened and closed without allowing the step to fully extend and lock in the "OUT" position, the step will immediately retract and lock in the "UP" position.

Refer to the power step Owner's Manual in your *Owner's Information Package* for details on maintenance and lubrication.

Ignition Switch Position	Entry Step Switch Position	Entry Step Position/ Action
OFF	OFF	Step extends and retracts with the opening and closing of the door.
OFF	ON	Step stays in the extended position regardless of door open or closed position.
ON	ON/OFF	Step retracts when the door is closed.

## ELECTRIC STEPWELL COVER (If Equipped)

Your motor home may be equipped with a electrically operated stepwell cover. The stepwell cover closes off the stepwell area when you are traveling. When the cover is extended, it provides a floor surface.

### Stepwell Cover Operation

1. The stepwell cover control is located on the passenger side of the overhead.
2. To extend the cover, move the control switch forward.
3. To retract the cover, move the control switch rearward.
4. The stepwell cover cannot be pushed in manually to retract. To retract the cover manually:
  - a. The clevis on the bottom of the stepwell cover must be disconnected to manually retract the cover. This process is slightly difficult and is best performed by an authorized American Coach dealer.

## Living With Your Motor Home

### ENTRY AND SCREEN DOORS

The main entry door uses a latching system similar to that used in automobiles. It has a secondary latch as well as a primary latch. When closing the door, be sure to close it firmly to engage the primary latch. This will ensure that the door is fully closed. **When traveling, always lock the dead bolt.**

The screen door may be separated from the main entry door by depressing the catch or releasing the magnet.

#### **WARNING**

Do not operate the hydraulic or electric stepwell cover while anyone is positioned in the stepwell or standing on the stepwell cover. A person standing on the stepwell cover or in the stepwell could lose their balance and fall if the stepwell cover is operated.

#### **WARNING**

In the event of a fire or other life threatening emergency do not attempt to retract the entry step cover if it is in the out position. Use what ever method necessary to safely exit the motor home that will not result to injury to yourself or others.

#### **WARNING**

Feet, legs, hands, and other body parts could be pinched or injured during stepwell cover operation. Keep clear of the stepwell cover during operation.

### PATIO AWNING (If Equipped)

An operating and maintenance guide for your awning is included in your **Owner's Information Package**. It contains complete instructions for opening and closing the awning, as well as maintenance and care instructions.

Any awning can collect debris and puddle water. After it has rained or snowed you should cautiously retract your awning and/or slide out box. If necessary occasionally stop the retraction to allow water to run off. A broom may be used to assist with water, snow or debris removal.

### WINDOWS

Windows in your motor home are either slider or torque pane type. Open slider windows by rotating the locking lever and sliding the window. Open and adjust torque windows by turning the knob or crank located at the bottom of the window frame.

On your ventilating windows, water is trapped by the frame. During a heavy downpour or washing, water may be seen in the lower portion of the frame. The sloping sill and weep slots allow the water to drain to the outside. These weep slots must be kept clean and free of debris to drain properly. If left unattended to and the drains become clogged the window track may fill and over flow with water creating the illusion the window is leaking.

***If water collects in the bottom channel and overflows, check the weep slots for debris and obstructions and clean as necessary.***

Damage or failure resulting from the application of after-market window tinting is the owner's responsibility.

### Emergency Exit Window(s)

#### **WARNING**

Using the emergency exit window during some form of a life threatening emergency it should be noted that the window exit is very high off the ground. Care must be used to avoid injury when exiting through the exit window.



#### **NOTE**

*Screens are not removable for cleaning. They may be pushed out of their frames if the window must be used for emergency exit. In this case, the screens will be destroyed and will probably have to be replaced.*

Emergency exit windows are identified by the red handles and EXIT label. Take time to look and identify where each emergency exit window is located. Storm windows should never be installed over emergency exit windows.

***Read and understand these instructions before you need to use them.*** The emergency exit window provides an escape route in case the motor home must be evacuated under emergency conditions. To operate the emergency exit window, either:

- Pull the red handle and remove the screen, or;
- Lift the red latch to release the window. Slide it completely through the slot so the window swings free.

When parked, be sure the exit window is not blocked by trees or other obstacles.

### REMOTE MIRROR CONTROL

Your new motor home may be equipped with power mirrors. The driver's control panel also contains controls for the exterior rear view mirror adjustment and heater, if equipped.

To adjust the mirrors, select either LEFT or RIGHT mirror and press the appropriate arrow. Activate the mirror heaters by pressing the HEATER control.

In the event the power mirror option was not selected and added, manual adjustment of the mirrors is required to provide a view of the sides and rear of the motor home. Mirrors should be adjusted prior to operation of your vehicle in traffic.

In the event the power mirror can not be adjusted using the power controls, the arm may require repositioning in the base. Consult the Owner's Manual for the mirrors in the Owner's Information packet for adjustment information.

### POWER SUN VISORS (If Equipped)

Your motor home may be equipped with optional power sun visors. The driver's control panel contains controls for the up/down operation for both left and right (driver and passenger) sun visors.

### PULL SHADES (If Equipped)

#### To Lower shades:

Gently pull the shade down to the desired height.

#### To Raise shades:

Gently pull the bottom of shade until the spring tension from the roller is felt, allowing shade to raise to desired height.

### Blinds / Shades (If Equipped)

The day/night shades are dual-purpose window covering that provide privacy at night and light control during the day.

#### To Lower blinds:

Using both hands, gently pull down on the lower bar to expose the sheer fabric for daytime light control. For use at night, pull on the upper bar to unfold the privacy curtain.

#### To Raise blinds:

Using both hands, gently raise the upper bar allowing the sheer fabric to fold, then raise the lower bar allowing the privacy curtain to fold.

### Power Blinds (If Equipped)

Your motor home may be equipped with power blinds. The controls are located in the top drawer of the center console on the right hand side of the driver's seat, or on the dash itself.

When the ignition is ON, the driver's side front and side window blinds and the passenger's front and side blinds cannot be moved or lowered. The blinds can only be moved when the ignition is ON.

### MINI-BLINDS (If Equipped)

#### To Lower mini-blinds:

Pull straight down on the cord slightly, and move it about 45 degrees to either the left or right and lower the blind. Stop the blind in mid-travel by moving it back to the straight down position. Re-attach the retainers when traveling.



## Living With Your Motor Home

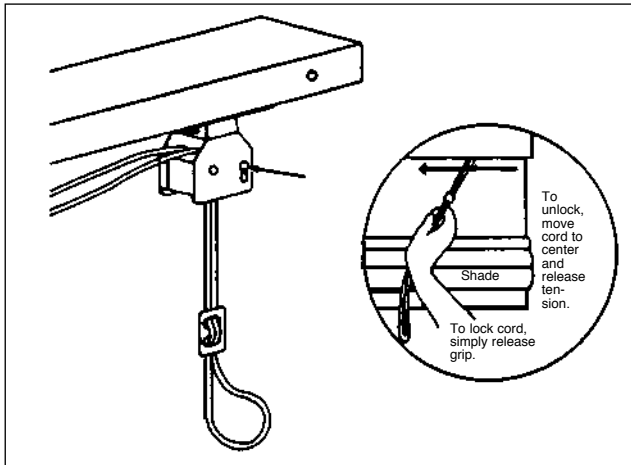
### To Raise mini-blinds:

Release bottom of blind from retainer. Pull straight down on cord and release at desired height. It is not necessary to pull the cord to one side or the other to secure blind.

### To Adjust the angle:

Turn the adjusting rod either direction.

## STORAGE



### Exterior Compartments

Exterior storage compartments should accommodate most of your storage needs. All of the storage compartments, except the Propane tank compartment, can be locked. Fire prevention regulations require that the Propane tank compartment be unlocked at all times.

Please note: Your motor home could be overloaded or out of balance if not properly loaded. Refer to the **Motor Home Loading** section of the **On The Road** chapter of this manual, and follow the loading and weighing instructions in that section. When storing equipment and supplies:

- Always keep tools and equipment stored in areas where they will not shift while traveling.
- Whenever possible, place heavy articles in storage compartments which are low and in the best location for weight distribution. Pack articles carefully in the storage compartments to minimize shifting. If

necessary, use straps to prevent movement.

- Be sure liquid containers are capped and cannot tip or spill.
- Secure all glass containers and dishes before traveling.
- Exterior storage compartments may not be watertight in all conditions. Carry any articles which could be damaged by water inside the motor home.
- Care must be exercised when loading cargo into the storage compartments. Care must be used not to damage, tear or displace the luggage door seals

### Interior Storage

## WARNING

Do not store flammable, volatile liquids or hazardous chemicals inside the motor home or in outside storage compartments. Toxic fumes from these liquids or chemicals may enter the interior of the motor home.

The closets and cabinets have catches along one edge of the door. Pull on the cabinet door handle to open. Overhead doors have supports to hold them open. The drawers have a catch along the edge of the drawer. Pull the drawer handle to open. It is recommended that cabinet drawers should not be loaded to exceed more than 15 lbs.

Closets may be equipped with 12-volt lights that turn ON when the closet door is opened or switched manually. Be sure to turn off the light when the closet door is closed—your battery will be discharged if it stays ON. ON door activates lights, if the light stays on when the door is closed, the door switch requires adjustment.

The same loading considerations apply to interior storage areas as to exterior. Consult the **Motor Home Loading** section in the **On The Road** chapter.

### SLIDE-OUT ROOMS (If Equipped)

Your new motor home may be equipped with an optional slide-out room. The slide-out room(s) are designed to provide additional living space.

A detailed operating and maintenance guide is included in your **Owner's Information Package**. Read all instructions for these systems carefully before operating the slide-outs.

In some installations it may be necessary to slide the driver's and passenger seats to the full forward position and place the seat back in the full upright position prior to moving the slide-out room in or out to prevent the room from striking or rubbing against the seat back.

Always exercise caution when operating the slide-out room.

- Always be certain that there is plenty of clearance for your room to safely extend to the full outward position.
- Remove any other potential obstructions to room movement.

For operation of the slide-out room the following is required:

- Park the RV and level it for stationary use
- Ignition on (engine running is mandatory or the system will not operate.)
- Transmission in "PARK" or in "NEUTRAL" for diesel products.
- Parking brake engaged and for diesel products the air brakes engaged or "set".
- Slide-out key or switch activated
- Battery voltage must be 13.0 Volts dc or greater.



### NOTE

*Under wet/snow weather conditions, after retracting the slide-out rooms(s), it may be necessary to towel off moisture from the end walls.*

### CAUTION

Never attempt to move your motor home with the slide-out room(s) extended. Damage can occur to the slide-out or motor home.

### CAUTION

In case of a power failure, the slide-out room can be retracted manually. Be sure to understand the operation section as explained in the slide-out systems Operations Manual in the **Owner's Information Package**.

## INTERIOR AND FURNISHINGS

The materials used inside your motor home have been selected for durability and comfort. With reasonable care, these materials will stand up under years of recreational living. The **Maintenance** chapter in this manual outlines care requirements for the various upholstery fabrics, floor, cabinet, and wall finishes.

### Sofa Conversion (If Equipped)

To convert a sofa bed into a bed:

1. Remove sofa bolsters (if applicable).
2. Lift front of sofa seat (above front kick panel) up and out. The back of the sofa will drop back and down as the seat is pulled outward.

To restore the sofa/lounge:

1. Lift the front edge of the sofa seat up, and push it back towards rear. The sofa back will come up.
2. Push the sofa fully into position.

### ***Sleeper Sofa Conversion (If Equipped)***

To convert a sleeper sofa into a bed:

1. Remove sofa cushions.
2. Lift front of sofa seat (above front kick panel) up and out. While lifting the seat out, the middle legs will automatically unfold into a vertical position.
3. Pull upward on the center of the metal bar, and rotate it down slowly until the wood bars rest on the floor.

To restore the sleeper sofa:

1. Lift the front edge of the bed frame up and rotate it back.
2. Lift the middle section of the bed up and push it back towards the rear until the bed is fully into position.
3. Replace the cushions.

### ***Interior Lighting***

Both decorative and ‘utility’ style 12-volt lighting fixtures may be used in your motor home. Utility style fixtures may be either single or dual. A slide switch selects either single or dual brightness. For your convenience, some lights are operated from wall switches. Light lenses may be cleaned with a damp cloth & soapy water.



#### **CAUTION**

Some of the lighting fixtures may be equipped with halogen bulbs. The bulbs and fixtures may get very hot when they are on. Do not touch these lighting fixtures when they are on. Allow them to cool before attempting to replace a bulb or to clean. Replace all light bulbs with the same type and wattage as originally installed or as indicated on the fixture.

### ***Overhead Vents***

Overhead vents may be located in the galley and bathroom areas for fresh air circulation and exhausting heat, odors and water vapor.

Turn the crank in the center of the overhead vent to open and adjust. Some vents may also be equipped with a 12-volt fan. A switch controls fan operation. Be sure to turn the fan OFF before closing the vent. Some vents may be connected to a wall switch.

Close the overhead vents or lower them before traveling to avoid damage from wind and low overhead clearances.

The vent may be cleaned from the top of the motor home. Use soapy water on the vent cover. The screens may be vacuumed or lightly brushed to remove accumulation of leaves or other debris.

Lubricate the gears and mechanism yearly with a light, water resistant grease.

### ***Folding Chairs (If Equipped)***

In some models, folding chairs are provided for your convenience. Store these chairs in an appropriate compartment when traveling to avoid personal injury or damage.

### ***Free-Standing Furniture (If Equipped)***

Your motor home may be equipped with free-standing furniture. American Coach has designed retention hardware which will secure any loose furniture during travel. Always secure any furniture or loose articles before moving the motor home. Failure to do so could result in damage to your furniture and motor home, as well as result in personal injury or death in the event of an accident or emergency maneuver.



#### **WARNING**

Loose furniture must be secured before travel. Failure to do so may result in injury or death in the event of an accident or emergency maneuver.



#### **WARNING**

Do not sit on folding chairs while the vehicle is in motion. Personal injury may result.

### MONITOR PANEL

The monitor panel allows you to conveniently check the approximate levels in the holding tanks, Propane tank and to check battery condition(s).

#### To check tank levels:

Press PROPANE, FRESH WATER, GRAY or BLACK TANK switches.

The E or empty indicator light will always be lit when the rocker or touch switches are depressed. If the tank is full, all lights will be on. Lights are sequential, and indicate levels in approximately 1/3 or 1/4-tank increments depending on monitor or panel design. If the tank selected is approximately 1/2-full, for example, lights E, 1/4 and 1/2 will be on.

#### To check the battery charge:

1. Shut off all charging sources, engine, generator, and disconnect the 120-volt power cord to turn off the converter.
2. Press BATTERY rocker switch on the panel.
3. Turn on a light or any 12-volt appliance. The battery must be checked with a load.
4. Read battery condition on the indicator.

### WARNING

The systems in this coach are not designed to be used for any life-support applications. In the unlikely event a system in this coach should malfunction, or fail to operate, it is possible any connected appliances, including life support equipment, may also fail, resulting in potential medical complications.

### EFFECTS OF PERMANENT OCCUPANCY

#### ***Condensation and How to Control It***

You need to understand how to properly manage and control the humid conditions and condensation that you may experience.

RVs are much smaller than a house, and are tightly built. This means that the interior air will

become saturated with moisture more quickly than in a typical house. The routine activities of a few people can put a lot of water into the air. In cold weather, this moisture may become visible as condensation.

Condensation happens naturally. Just as moisture collects on the outside of a glass of cold water during humid weather, moisture can condense on the inside surfaces of your RV during cold weather when the humidity of the interior air is high.

Water vapor will condense on the inside of the windows and walls. In really cold weather, frost or ice may appear. ***It may also condense out of sight within the walls or the ceiling.*** If enough water collects in the wall or ceiling materials, it may cause water stains on the wall or ceiling surface. You might think that your walls or ceiling are leaking. You have a problem with condensation if you see these signs. You need to do something to reduce the moisture inside your RV.

Here are some frequently asked questions about condensation and some answers that will help you understand more about your RV and how to keep it comfortable.

**Q. – In cold weather, my windows and walls look like they’re sweating. Is that condensation?**

**A. –** Yes. Your windows are a good way to know if the humidity in your RV is too high. All air contains water vapor. When air is warm it can hold much more water vapor than when it is cold. When the air cools, the water vapor “condenses” back to a liquid. Since your windows are usually cooler than the air, the water collects on the surface of the glass.

**Q. – Where does all the water come from?**

**A. –** Moisture in the air comes from many sources. Some of the most common are:

***Cooking*** – Meals prepared for a family of four can add up to a gallon of water per day into the air from cooking.

**Bathing** – An average shower can put between  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of water into the air.

**Dish washing** – Doing the dishes for a typical day's meals can add up to one pound of water to the air.

**Floor mopping** – When an 8' x 10' kitchen floor is mopped and rinsed, almost  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of water can be released into the air.

**Clothes drying** – After 10 pounds of clothes have been washed and spin-dried in a washer, they still contain about 10 pounds of water. If these clothes are dried inside, that water is released into the air in the RV.

**Propane appliances** – When Propane is burned, carbon dioxide, nitrogen and water are given off into the air. For every 1000 cubic feet of Propane burned, nearly 88 pounds of water is released into the air.

**Humidifiers** – Humidifiers are designed to put moisture into dry air – up to two pounds per hour. So in a 24-hour period, an uncontrolled humidifier can put almost 50 pounds of water into the air.

**House plants and aquariums** – Plants give off almost as much water as you put on them. Open aquariums permit higher rates of evaporation than closed types.

**People and animals** – A large source of water in the RV is the inhabitants themselves. A family of four can put up to 12 pounds of water into the air per day through breathing and perspiration.

As you can see, just the normal course of living adds a great deal of water to the air.

### **Q. – What will all this water do to my RV?**

**A. –** The least it will do is fog your windows. If it is really cold outside, frost or even clear ice could form on the inside of the glass.

Excessive moisture in the air could show up as water running down or dripping off walls, ceilings or fixtures. It may look like

your roof or windows are leaking. This water may stain woodwork, carpeting, ceiling panels or even furniture.

But the most damage is caused by water you can't even see. Water will penetrate almost any material – except glass and metals. Water vapor in the air always wants to move toward dry air. Scientists call this “vapor pressure” action. It will go through walls, floor covering, plywood, paint – just about anything. The water that gets trapped in these materials can cause warping, mildew, paint failure and rotting.

The damage caused by excessive humidity can be invisible, and worse, expensive to fix. Please remember that this damage is not covered under the warranty.

### **Q. – What can I do to reduce or eliminate condensation problems in my RV?**

**A. –** The two most important things are:

***Reduce moisture released into the air and increase ventilation***

***To reduce moisture released inside the RV:***

1. Run the vent fan when cooking and the bath vent fan (or open the bath vent) when bathing.
2. Avoid making steam from excessive boiling or use of hot water.
3. Remove water or snow from shoes before entering to avoid soaking the carpet.
4. Avoid drying clothes inside (except in the dryer, if equipped). The water drying out of the clothes goes into the air.
5. Vent appliances to the outside. Your clothes dryer should always be vented according to the dryer manufacturer's installation instructions. (Some dryers are designed to be ventless and do not require a vent to the outdoors.) Check the vents periodically to be sure they are not blocked.

6. If you operate or use vaporizing inhalers, or similar devices, always provide adequate ventilation.

### CAUTION

Do not heat the RV interior with the range or oven. Open flames add moisture to the interior air. Do not use an air humidifier inside the RV. Water put into the air by the humidifier will increase condensation.



### WARNING

Never use open flame Propane or kerosene-burning heaters indoors. These devices release water into the air, and the exhaust gases contain poisonous substances.



### WARNING

Do not cover emergency exit window(s). This window must be left accessible at all times for emergency exit.

#### To increase ventilation:

1. Use the kitchen and bath exhaust fans, if equipped, when cooking or bathing. Let them run for a while after a bath or meal.
2. Ventilate with outside air. Partially open one or more roof vents and/or windows to provide circulation of outside air into the interior. While this ventilation will increase furnace heating load, it will greatly reduce, or eliminate, condensation. Even when it is raining or snowing, outside air will be far drier than interior air and will effectively reduce condensation.
3. Do not tape windows or doors closed. This will prevent any air movement and will make the condensation problem worse.
4. Ventilate closets and cabinets. During use in cold weather, leave cabinet

and closet doors partially open to warm and ventilate the interiors of storage compartments built against exterior walls. The air flow will warm the exterior wall surface, and reduce condensation, and prevent possible ice formation. Avoid crowding closets or wardrobe space. Overstuffed closets restrict air flow.

5. Stock kitchen and bath cabinets to allow free air circulation.
6. Open window coverings and windows as often as possible and convenient.
7. Control the interior heat. Here are some tips on controlling humidity with heat:
  - *Keep registers and the furnace blower clean and unobstructed. This helps air circulation.*
  - *Do not operate a humidity device on your furnace.*

#### Dripping Ceiling Vents

During cold weather or hot when using your air conditioner, condensation frequently forms on ceiling vents and may even accumulate to the point of dripping onto the surfaces below. This is frequently misinterpreted as a “leaking” roof vent but is most often condensation drippage. Follow the preceding steps to control moisture condensation, and protect surfaces with plastic sheeting until the moisture has dissipated.

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Mold is a fungus that occurs naturally in the environment and serves necessary functions including aiding in the decomposition of plant and other organic material. Mold spreads by means of microscopic spores borne on the wind and is found everywhere life can be supported. Mold has existed for millions of years, and human beings have coexisted despite their exposure to mold and mold spores.

If the proper conditions are present, mold can and will grow in your recreational vehicle. Most RV owners are familiar with mold growth in

## Living With Your Motor Home

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the form of bread and cheese and on bathroom tile. In order to grow, mold requires a food source. These food sources might be supplied by items found in the RV such as fabric, carpet, wallpaper, or building materials (i.e., wood, and insulation). Also, most mold growth requires a temperate climate. The best growth occurs at temperatures between 40°F and 100°F. Most importantly, mold growth requires moisture, and moisture is the only growth factor that can be controlled. By minimizing interior sources of moisture, an RV owner can reduce or prevent mold growth. However, if optimal growth conditions persist, mold can develop within 24 to 48 hours.

Moisture in the RV can stem from a variety of sources such as spills, leaks, overflows, condensation, damp or standing water and human activity such as showering or cooking. Good maintenance practices are essential in the effort to prevent or reduce mold growth.

### ***What the RV Owner Can Do***

The RV owner can take positive steps to reduce the occurrence of mold growth in the RV and thereby minimize any possible adverse effects that may be caused by mold.

These steps may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Before bringing items into the RV check for signs of mold. Potted plants (root and soil), furnishings, or stored clothing and bedding materials may also contain mold spores.
- Regular vacuuming and cleaning will help reduce levels of settled mold spores. Additionally, detergent solutions and most tile cleaners are effective in controlling mold growth on surfaces.
- Keep the humidity in the RV below 40%. Ventilate kitchens and bathrooms by opening windows, using exhaust fans, or running the air conditioning to remove excess moisture in the air and to facilitate evaporation of water from wet surfaces.

In general, windows or doors throughout the RV should be opened periodically to ventilate the RV.

- Promptly clean up spills, condensation, and other sources of moisture. Thoroughly dry any wet surfaces or material. Do not let water pool or stand in or under your RV.
- Inspect for leaks on a regular basis. Look for discolorations or wet spots. Repair any leaks promptly. Inspect condensation pans (refrigeration and air conditioners) for mold growth. Take notice of musty odors and any visible signs of mold growth.

Other actions the RV owner can take to prevent moisture issues include the following:

- Do NOT use unvented Propane, kerosene, or other unvented combustion heaters;
- Do NOT cover or close off the floor registers; (if equipped)
- Check your cooling equipment filter on a monthly basis;
- Use the air conditioner or a dehumidifier during humid months, particularly during the summer in hot, humid climates;
- Use exhaust fans in kitchen and bathrooms to remove excess moisture;
- Clean the bathroom with mold-killing products.

For more information about mold, and what you can do to reduce moisture and remediate mold growth in your RV, please refer to the following websites and literature;

1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings 2001.  
[http://www.epa.gov/mold/mold\\_remediation.html](http://www.epa.gov/mold/mold_remediation.html)
2. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. A Brief Guide to Mold, Moisture, and Your Home, 2002.  
<http://www.epa.gov/mold/moldguide.html>

The particle board, hardwood plywood, or paneling used in your motor home are made with urea-formaldehyde resin. The companies

that supply us with these materials have asked that we tell you about urea-formaldehyde with the statements on this page.

Ventilation is important for making the interior of your motor home comfortable. Please read the section about ventilation and prolonged occupancy in the *Living With Your Motor Home* chapter in this *Owner's Manual*.

We provide you consumer information as detailed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The information and warnings found on these pages may also be found in other chapters of this *Owner's Manual*. Please see the *Propane System* and *Appliances* chapters for other safety and operating information.

### FIRE SAFETY

The hazard and possibility of fire exists in all areas of life, and the recreational life-style is no exception. Your RV is a complex machine made up of many materials, some of them flammable. But like most hazards, the possibility of fire can be minimized, if not totally eliminated, by recognizing the danger and practicing common sense, safety and maintenance habits.

#### WARNING

This product is manufactured with urea-formaldehyde resin. Formaldehyde vapor may in some people cause headaches, eye, nose and throat irritation, and aggravation of allergies and respiratory problems, such as asthma. Proper ventilation should reduce the risk of such problems.

#### WARNING

This product is manufactured with a urea-formaldehyde resin and will release small quantities of formaldehyde. Formaldehyde levels in the indoor air can cause temporary eye and respiratory irritation, and may aggravate respiratory conditions or allergies. Ventilation will reduce indoor formaldehyde levels.

#### WARNING

**Irritant:** This product contains a urea-formaldehyde resin and may release formaldehyde vapors in low concentrations. Formaldehyde can be irritating to the eyes and upper respiratory system of especially susceptible persons such as those with allergies or respiratory ailments. Use with adequate ventilation. If symptoms develop, consult your physician.

Know where your fire extinguisher is located and how and when to use it. Read the instructions on the fire extinguisher. Remember that portable fire extinguishers are intended for use by the occupants of a building or area that is threatened by fire. They are most valuable when used immediately on small fires. They have a limited amount of fire-extinguishing material, and therefore must be used properly so this material is not wasted.

Fire extinguishers are pressurized, mechanical devices. They must be handled with care and treated with respect. They must be maintained as outlined in any maintenance instructions provided with the device so they are ready to operate properly and safely. Parts or internal chemicals may deteriorate in time and need replacement. Always follow maintenance and recharging instructions provided by the fire extinguisher manufacturer. Maintain proper charge in the fire extinguisher.

#### WARNING

**Urethane foam is flammable!**

Do not expose urethane foams to open flames or any other direct or indirect high temperature sources of ignition such as burning operations, welding, burning cigarettes, space heaters or unprotected electric light bulbs.

Once ignited, urethane foams will burn rapidly, releasing great heat and consuming oxygen very quickly.

In an enclosed space the resulting deficiency of oxygen will present a danger of suffocation to the occupants. Hazardous gases released by the burning foam can be incapacitating or fatal to human beings if inhaled in sufficient quantities.



## Living With Your Motor Home

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Walk around your motor home and identify where all or the emergency window exits are located. These window are identified with red handles.

### Fire Safety Precautions

In addition to instructing occupants on what to do in case of fire, and holding fire drills periodically, consider these fire safety suggestions:

- If you experience a fire while traveling, ***maintain control of the vehicle until you can safely stop. Evacuate the vehicle as quickly and safely as possible.***
- If you experience a fire while camped, ***evacuate the vehicle as quickly and safely as possible.***
- Consider the cause and severity of the fire and risk involved before trying to put it out. If the fire is major or is fuel-fed, stand clear of the vehicle and wait for the fire department or other emergency assistance.
- If your RV is damaged by fire, do not move or live in it until you have had it thoroughly examined and repaired.

### WARNING

Explosive fuel clouds may be present at fuel filling stations. Before refueling (either gasoline, diesel fuel or Propane) be sure to turn off all pilot flames and appliances in your motor home. Turning off the Propane at the tank is insufficient. Pilotless appliances may still spark or pilot flames may not extinguish immediately.

### WARNING

Portable fuel burning equipment, including wood and charcoal grills and stoves, shall not be used inside this recreational vehicle. The use of this equipment inside the recreational vehicle may cause fires or asphyxiation.

### WARNING

Do not bring or store Propane containers, gasoline or other flammable liquids inside the vehicle because a fire or explosion may result.

Just as in your home, included below are some common sense tips to help prevent a fire incident from occurring.

- Never leave unattended food cooking on the stove or in the oven.
- Never smoke in bed or leave cigars/cigarettes unattended.
- Keep candles or any open flames away from curtains/fabrics/walls and ceiling.
- Keep matches and igniter devices safely stored and away from small children.
- Do not store combustibles inside your RV (gasoline, charcoal lighter, etc.).

### Smoke Detector/Alarm

A battery-powered smoke detector/alarm is mounted on the ceiling in the living/cooking area of your motor home. Please read the smoke detector/alarm operating instructions for details on testing and caring for this important safety device.

Test the smoke detector/alarm after the motor home has been in storage, before each trip, and at least once a week during use.

The smoke detector/alarm should never be disabled due to nuisance or false alarm from cooking smoke, a dusty furnace, etc.

Ventilate your motor home with fresh air and the detector/alarm will shut off. ***Do not disconnect the battery.***

Replace the battery once a year or immediately when the low battery BEEP signal as described in the operating instructions sounds.

Check the operation of your Smoke Detector/Alarm by depressing the “test” button a minimum of once per month. For further instructions regarding the Smoke Detector/Alarm consult your instruction manual located in the Owner’s Information Packet.

If the smoke detector/alarm fails to operate with new batteries, replace it with a new unit, available through an authorized American Coach Dealer.

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# PLUMBING SYSTEMS AND HOLDING TANKS

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The plumbing systems in your motor home are constructed of durable thermoplastic materials. Holding tanks and piping components are strong, lightweight, and corrosion resistant.

Holding tanks are of three types:

- **Fresh** – Fresh potable water
- **Grey** – Lavy/shower effluent
- **Black** – Toilet effluent

It is recommended to discharge as many fluid tanks as practical before driving.

## FRESH WATER SYSTEM

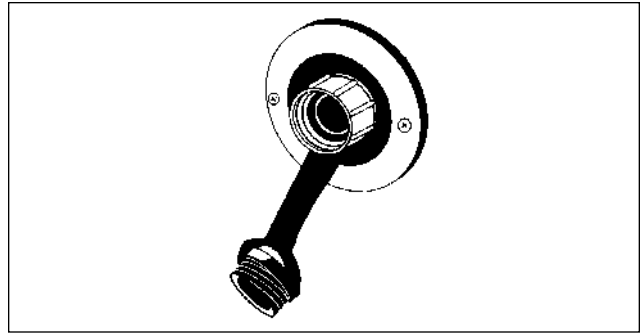
Fresh, potable water is available from either an external “city water” hookup or on-board storage.

### **External Fresh Water Hookup**

The external system is pressurized by the water system at an RV park or city water supply. The connection is located in the utility compartment on the rear left side of the motor home.

#### **To connect to pressurized city water:**

1. Connect one end of a potable water hose to the RV park or city water supply. This will usually be a faucet or valve similar to your garden hose valve at home. Potable water hoses are available at RV supply stores.
2. Run the city water supply for a few seconds to clear the line. Turn off the water.
3. Attach the other end of the potable water hose to city water connection located on the motor home. Make sure all connections are tight.
4. Turn on the RV park/city water supply. Open all faucets inside the motor home to clear the lines. Then turn off faucets.



*External Fresh Water Connection*

## CAUTION

Since water pressures at campgrounds vary, we recommend you install an in-line pressure regulator (if not equipped) at the water supply faucet. This will protect the motor home water system and your supply hose from excessively high water pressure.

#### **To disconnect the city water:**

1. Turn OFF the city water supply.
2. Remove the hose from the city water supply valve.
3. Drain and store the hose.

### **Filling the On-Board Water Tank**

**The on-board fresh water tank can be filled in two ways: (1) city water pressure or (2) gravity.**

1. City water pressure – When connected to the city water supply as described above, turn the bypass valve located in the utility compartment to “Water Tank Fill” from the “Normal” setting. This will fill the on-board fresh water tank.

Make sure the external gravity fill connection is open (remove the cap) to allow air to escape from the on-board tank. When water flows out of this external fill, the on-board tank is full.

After filling, turn the bypass valve to “Normal.”

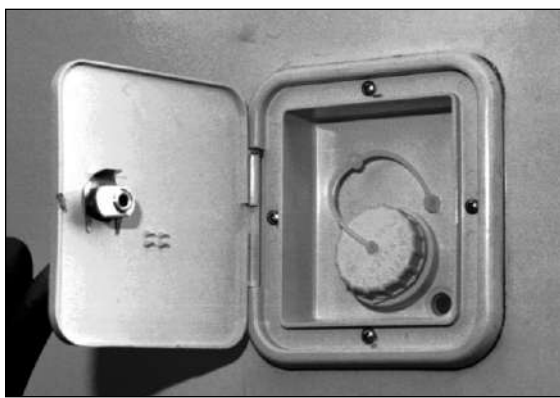
## Plumbing Systems and Holding Tanks



### CAUTION

Overfilling the fresh water tank from a pressurized source may cause damage to the water system. Monitor water tank filling continually.

2. Gravity fill –The external gravity water fill is located on the exterior of the motor home. The on-board water tank can be filled here. To fill the fresh water tank, remove the cap, remove the vent plug, and fill the tank using a potable water hose.



*Typical Gravity Fresh Water Tank Fill*

### Draining the Fresh Water Tank

Avoid leaving the water in the tank when the motor home is not in use. Turn the water pump OFF before draining the water tank. Whenever possible, drain the fresh water tank before traveling. Water in the tank will reduce the carrying capacity of the motor home. See **Motor Home Loading** section of the **On The Road** chapter.

The main water tank “quick-drain” valve may be located on the end of the water tank, or in the utility compartment.

### Water Pump

The on-board fresh water system is pressurized by a self-priming, 12-volt DC pump. The pump operates automatically when the pump power switch is ON and a faucet is opened. When the faucets are closed, the pump shuts off. It can run dry for extended periods without damage. See

*Electrical Systems* chapter.

Turn the pump master switch ON to pressurize the system. When a faucet is opened after the initial filling of the tank, the water may sputter for a few seconds. This is normal and is not cause for concern. The water flow will become steady when all air is bled from the water lines.



### NOTE

*Turn water pump off before traveling. Road vibration could cause a faucet to open. If the water pump is on, your fresh water supply could be pumped into the holding tank.*

### Water Pump Filter

Dirt, mineral scale, and organic matter are filtered out of the fresh water system by an in-line water filter on the inlet side of the water pump. If you suspect a clogged filter, it is easily removed and cleaned.

Inspect the filter after running the first full tank of water. Clean and inspect monthly thereafter. The filter is located in the utility compartment behind the service panel.

1. Loosen the clamp at the inlet end of the filter.
2. Pull the water line off the filter.
3. Unscrew the filter from the water pump.
4. Turn each end of the filter and pull apart.
5. Flush out and clean screen.
6. Reverse procedure to install.
7. Operate the water pump and check for leaks.

### Low Point Drains

**To drain hot and cold lines:**

1. Open hot and cold low point drains.
2. Open the shower handle and faucet until all water has drained from the lines.

### Troubleshooting the Fresh Water System

Water system problems usually fall into two

categories: Inherent system problems, and problems caused by neglect. System problems are usually the result of road vibration and campsite water pressure variations. Problems of neglect usually stem from failure to clean filters, improper winterization, and poor battery maintenance. Most water system problems can be avoided by conscientious maintenance.

### **Leaks**

Vibration, flexing and twisting while traveling can work pipe fittings loose. Check all plumbing for leaks at least once a year. If the water pump runs when a faucet is not open, suspect a leak. Be sure the tank drain valves are tightly closed. Leaks occur most often around threaded fittings. If necessary, tighten or clean and tighten the fittings. Do not overtighten fittings. Connections at galley and lavatory fixtures should not be tightened with a wrench. They will normally seal with hand-tightening. If a leak persists at one of the fittings, disconnect it completely and check for mineral deposits or other foreign matter at the seating surfaces. Clean the surfaces thoroughly and reinstall the fitting.

Connections at the water tank, pump and valves are made with special clamps. They can be replaced with standard automotive type hose clamps.

Leaks caused by freezing damage can be prevented by proper winterization of the system. See the **Storage** chapter of this manual. Freezing damage is usually extensive and may include a burst water tank, split piping, and a damaged water pump, toilet, and water heater. If you experience this type of damage, repairs can best be made by an authorized American Coach Dealer.

For your safety, the shower faucet is equipped with a vacuum breaker device. This device is designed to prevent back flow of water into the fresh water system, reducing the possibility of contamination of the water supply. When the faucet is in the OFF position with the shower hose held above the faucet, water will drain out of the vacuum breaker. This drainage is not a defect, but indicates that the faucet is working correctly.

### **Sanitizing the Fresh Water System**

As approved by the U.S. Public Health Service, sanitize the fresh water tank and piping system whenever the system may have become contaminated, has not been used for a period of time, or before long periods of storage. This will discourage the growth of bacteria and other organisms that can contaminate the water supply. Use a chlorine/fresh water rinse as follows:

1. Prepare a solution of 1/4-cup household liquid chlorine bleach (5% sodium hypochlorite) to one gallon of water. Use one gallon solution for each 15 gallons of tank capacity.
2. Close drain valves and faucets, pour the chlorine solution into the exterior fresh water tank filler spout, and complete filling at tank with potable water.
3. Turn water pump switch ON. (Be sure you have 12-volt DC power.) Open all faucets individually until water flows steadily, then turn them off. This will purge any air from the lines.
4. Top off water tank with fresh water and allow the system to stand for at least 4 hours.
5. Drain the entire system by opening all potable water tank valves, plumbing line drain valves, and operating faucets.
6. Flush the system with potable water. Let the fresh water flow through the system for several minutes to flush out the chlorine solution.
7. After you stop the flushing, close the tank valve, drain valves, and faucets. You can now fill the tank with potable water, and the system is ready to use.

### **Exterior Shower (If Equipped)**

A shower fixture is mounted in the exterior utility compartment. The water pump must be ON or city water pressure must be available for the shower to operate.

## Plumbing Systems and Holding Tanks

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### ***Power Water Hose Reel (If Equipped)***

The water hose reel uses 12-volt DC power to operate the control panel switch, which is located next to the water hose reel. Your ***Owner's Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.

### ***Whole Coach Water Filter System (If Equipped)***

The water filter helps provide consistent drinking water quality to the entire water system. The filter cartridge is located in the service panel compartment. Your ***Owner's Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.



#### **NOTE**

*This system is not designed for or effective in removing or neutralizing bacterial contaminants.*

### ***Insta-Hot Drinking Water System (If Equipped)***

The Insta-Hot drinking water system is tied into the coach drinking water system. It will provide instant hot water from the galley water dispenser. Your ***Owner's Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.



#### **NOTE**

*This system is not designed for or effective in removing or neutralizing bacterial contaminants.*

## **WASTE WATER SYSTEM**

The waste water system in your RV is made up of sinks, tub, shower, toilet, plumbing drain and vent lines, a “gray water” holding tank and a “black water” holding tank. The gray tank holds shower, tub and sinks, where the black tank holds toilet effluent. The holding tanks make the

system completely self-contained and allow you to dispose of waste water at your convenience. A flexible sewer hose is required to connect the holding tank outlet to the inlet of an approved waste water dump station or sewer system.

The drain plumbing is very similar to that used in your home. The system is trapped and vented to prevent waste gases from backing up into the RV. The drain plumbing is made of plastic, and is durable and resistant to most chemicals. All drain plumbing except the toilet connection terminates in the gray water holding tank and drains directly into it.

### ***Toilet***

Your RV is equipped with a marine-type toilet. The flushing mechanism, whether a foot-operated pedal power flushed or a hand-operated lever, allows a valve in the bottom of the bowl to open, permitting the contents to be flushed into the “black” holding tank. A stream of water under pressure from the RV’s water system swirls around the bowl, cleaning it and flushing the contents into the holding tank. Most models have two levers, each working independently of the other so the bowl can be filled with water prior to use.

In order to help prevent hard deposits from building up within the “black” tank and help reduce unwanted odor, it is recommended to always keep water in the tank. When empty after a tank discharge, flush the toilet several times in order to introduce about five gallons of water.

It is highly recommended that a deodorizing product should be used for the black tank after each discharge at a dumping station. This will help control unwanted odors.

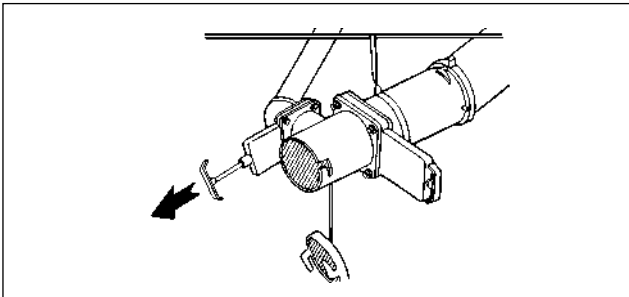
Ensure that the black tank sewer drain system is always closed and only opened when draining at a dump station. Never allow your black tank system to dry out unless it has been thoroughly cleaned, sanitized and rinsed first.

For additional information, please refer to the toilet operating manual in your ***Owner's Information Package***.

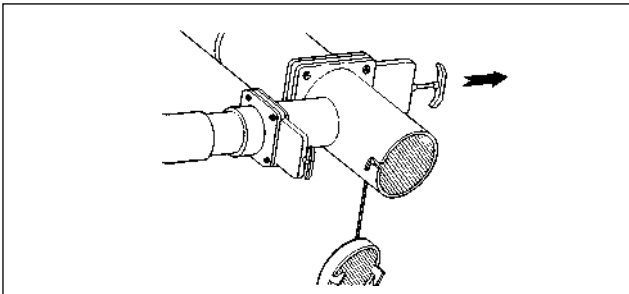
### Draining the Holding Tanks

The holding tanks terminate in a valve arrangement that permits draining each tank separately.

The valves are called knife valves. A blade closes the opening in the sewer drain pipes. The blade is connected to a T-handle and cable assembly mounted in the utility compartment. ***Do not pull the holding tank knife valve open when the protective cap is installed on the pipe.*** Pull the T-handle to release the contents of the tank(s).



*Gray Holding Tank Dumping*



*Black Water Tank Dumping*

During self-containment use, the sewer line is securely capped to prevent leakage of waste material onto the ground or pavement. Always drain the tank into an acceptable sewer inlet or dump station.

Drain the holding tanks only when they are at least  $\frac{3}{4}$ -full. If necessary, fill the tanks with water to  $\frac{3}{4}$ -full. This provides sufficient water to allow complete flushing of waste material into the sewer line.

Whenever possible, drain the holding tanks before traveling. Waste water and sewage in the holding tanks reduce the carrying capacity of the motor home. See the ***Motor Home Loading*** chapter.

During extended or semi-permanent hookups to sewage systems, waste materials will build up in the tank and cause serious plugging if the tank valves are continuously open. In these cases, keep the valves closed until the tanks are  $\frac{3}{4}$ -full, and then drain into the sewage system.

The holding tank drain valve outlet is to be used with a removable termination fitting that locks onto the outlet with a clockwise twist. Clamp the sewer drain hose to this fitting. A protective cap should remain in place when you are not draining the tanks.

### WARNING

Holding tanks are enclosed sewer systems and as such must be drained into an approved dump station. Both black and gray water holding tanks must be drained and thoroughly rinsed regularly to prevent accumulation of harmful or toxic materials.



### NOTE

*Local or state regulations may prohibit highway travel unless the holding tank outlet is securely capped.*

#### To drain the holding tanks:

1. Attach the sewer hose to the holding tank outlet. Insert the end of the hose into the sewer or dump station inlet, pushing it firmly far enough into the opening to be secure. In some cases, adapters may be necessary or required between the line and the inlet. Arrange the sewer hose so it slopes evenly.
2. Drain the black water holding tank first. Grasp the handle of the black water knife valve (the large one) firmly and slide the valve open with a quick, steady pull.
3. Allow enough time for the tank to drain completely. Rinse and flush the tank through the toilet. When the tank is empty, push the handle in to close the valve. Run enough water (up to five gallons or so) into the tank to cover the bottom. This will aid the break up of solid wastes, and reduce “pyramiding” of waste material.

## Plumbing Systems and Holding Tanks

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4. To drain the gray water tank, repeat the steps above using the small knife valve. This tank is drained last to aid in flushing the outlets and hose. The gray water knife valve may be left open in a semi-permanent hookup.
5. See the tank flush system instructions in the next section if your recreational vehicle is so equipped.
6. Remove the sewer hose and cap the outlet.
7. Rinse out the sewer hose with fresh water and remove the sewer hose from the dump station.
8. Replace sewer or dump station covers.



### CAUTION

The sewer drain valve must be open when using the black tank flush inlet.

### ***Black Tank Flush System (If Equipped)***

A black water holding tank system that is equipped with a flush system has rinsing spray heads inside the tank that will aid in the removal of sewage residue from the interior of the holding tank. To operate the tank flushing system, follow the procedures for ***Draining The Holding Tanks*** in this chapter. After dumping the gray water tank proceed as follows:

1. With the dump valves open, attach a garden hose to the black tank flush inlet connection.
2. Turn on water supply to garden hose and allow the water to run for approximately three minutes to flush tank.
3. Turn off water supply to garden hose.
4. Remove hose from black tank flush inlet connection and store hose.
5. After rinse water has thoroughly drained from the black tank, close the knife valve and replace the termination cap. Rinse out the sewer hose with fresh water and remove the sewer hose from the dump station. If you are parked at a site with a semipermanent sewer hookup, keep the black water knife valve closed to allow the waste level to build up. The outlet will probably clog if you leave the knife valve open continually. Run enough water into the tank to cover the bottom. This will aid the break up of solid wastes.
6. Replace sewer or dump station covers.

### ***San-T-Flush Operation (Black and Grey Tank Flush System) (Using sanitizing bottle from kit) (If Equipped)***

1. Dump holding tanks in the usual manner at an approved station.
  2. Leave dump valves open.
  3. Attach garden hose to San-T-Flush attachment.
  4. Remove clear plastic bottle.
  5. Place one (1) waste liquefier tablet into screen.
  6. Replace the bottle. Hand tighten.
  7. Hook water hose to inlet side of the sanitizing bottle cover.
  8. Connect the male disconnect to the San-T-Flush valve (yellow handle). Turn the valve to "BLACK TANK."
  9. Flush black tank until tablet is 2/3 dissolved.
  10. While water is running, turn the San-T-Flush valve to "GREY WATER TANK" and flush until the tablet is dissolved.
  11. Turn San-T-Flush valve to "BLACK TANK."
  12. Remove San-T-Flush attachment and garden hose.
  13. Remove the sewer hose and cap the outlet.
  14. Rinse out the sewer hose with fresh water and remove the sewer hose from the dump station.
- Replace sewer or dump station covers.

## Plumbing Systems and Holding Tanks

*Please...Practice good housekeeping when draining wastes at a campsite or disposal station. Leave the site in good order. Above all, do not pollute.*



### CAUTION

The sewer drain valve must be open when using the black tank flush inlet.



### CAUTION

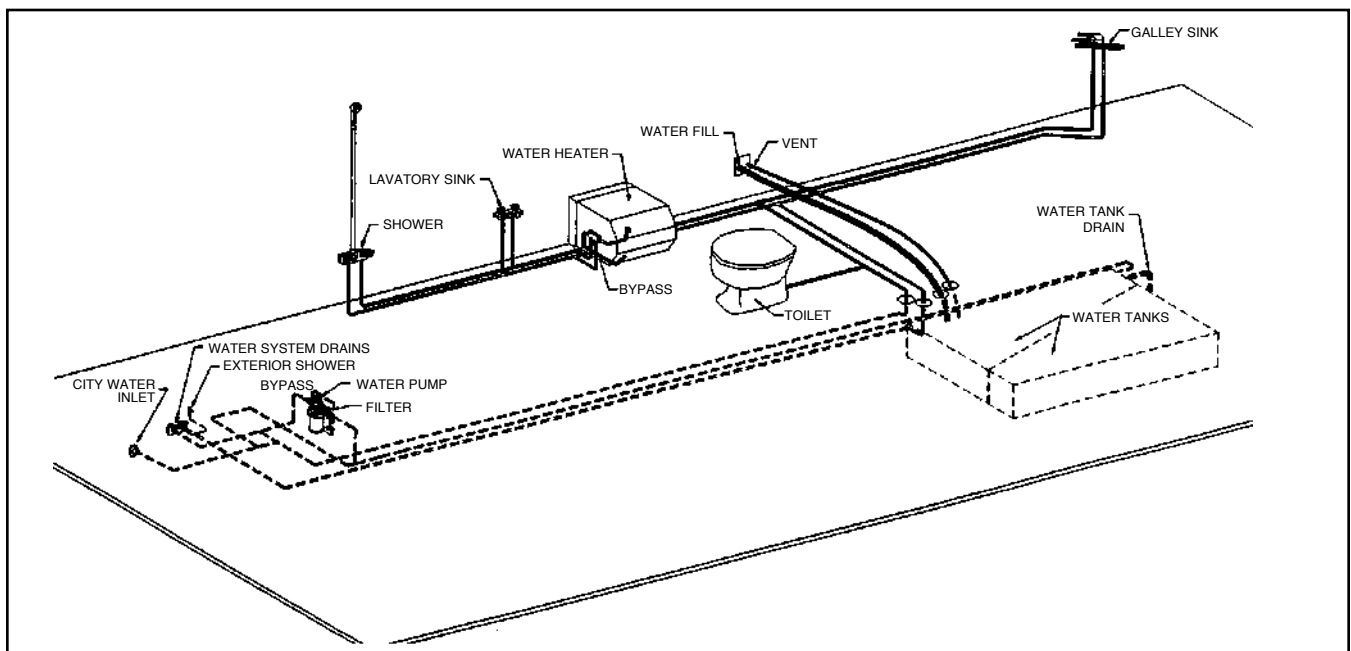
Do not use the same hose you use for filling the potable water tank, or for connection to the city water inlet. This is especially true if you the connect the quick connect hose to the typical rinsing hoses at most dumping stations. Use of a different hose will insure that you will not contaminate your fresh water supply.

### Holding Tank Care

Since holding tanks don't rely on any sophisticated mechanical devices for their operation, they are virtually trouble-free. The most common problem is also an unpleasant one – clogging. You can minimize the

chances of clogging by keeping the following considerations in mind:

- Keep the black water tank knife valve closed. Fill tank to at least  $\frac{3}{4}$ -full before draining. Be sure to cover the tank bottom with water after draining.
- Use only toilet tissue formulated for use in septic tank or RV sanitation systems.
- Keep both knife valves closed and locked, and the drain cap tightly in place when using the system on the road.
- Use only cleaners that are approved for use in septic tank or RV sanitation systems.
- Use a special holding tank deodorant chemical approved for septic tank systems in the black water holding tank. These chemicals aid the breakdown of solid wastes and make the system much more pleasant to use. Do not put facial tissue, paper, ethylene glycol-based or other automotive antifreeze, feminine hygiene products or household toilet cleaners in the holding tanks.
- Do not put anything solid in either tank that could scratch or puncture the tank.



*Typical Hot and Cold Diagram (Shown with a Hot Water Heater)*



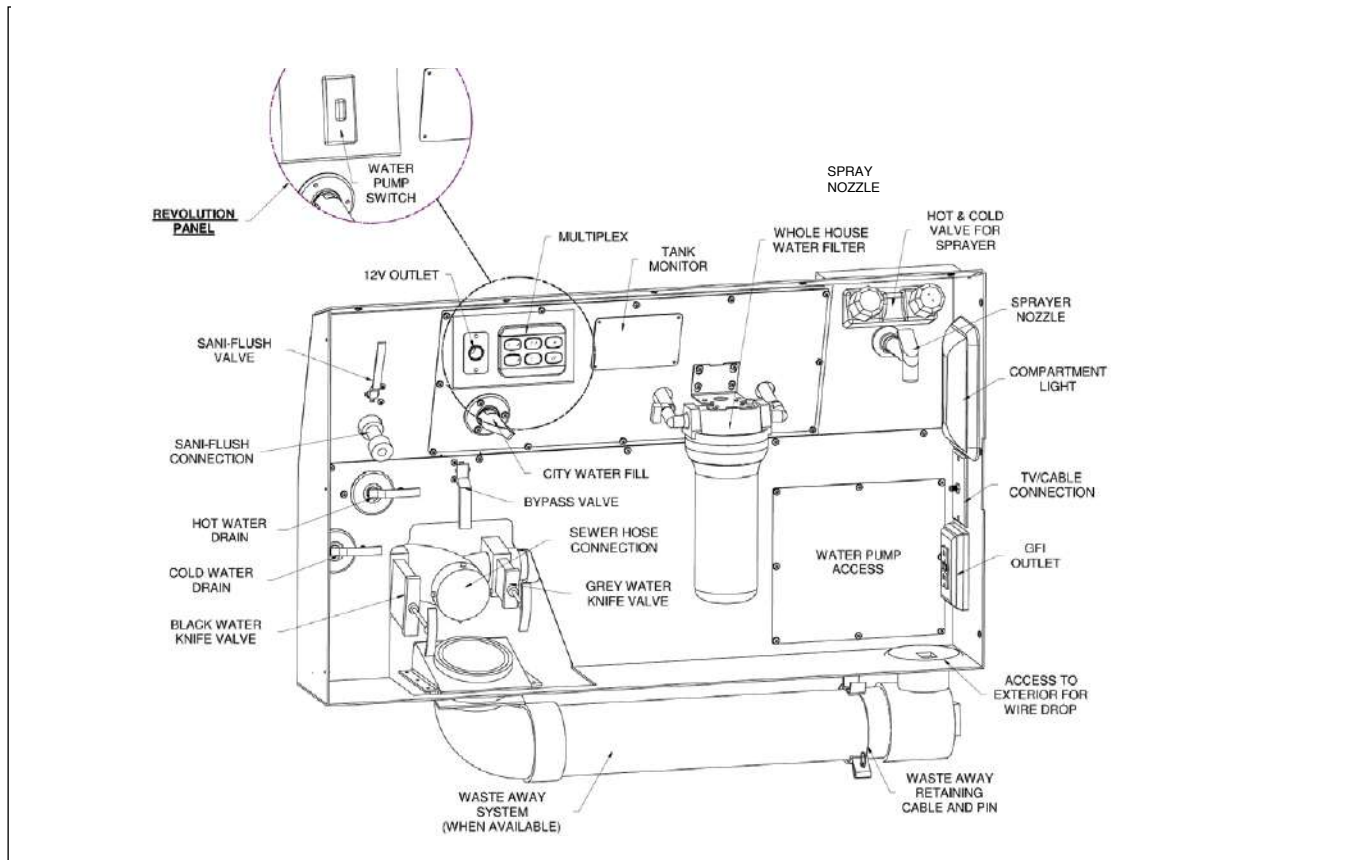
## Plumbing Systems and Holding Tanks

### If the drain system does get clogged:

- Use a hand-operated probe to loosen stubborn accumulations.
- Seriously clogged P-traps may require disassembly. Be careful not to overtighten when reassembling.
- Do not use harsh household drain cleaners.
- Do not use motorized drain augers.
- Sometimes the holding tank valve will get clogged. In this case, a hand-operated auger may be necessary. Be ready to close the valve quickly once the clog is cleared. If the seal gets damaged, it is easily replaced.

### Cold Weather Usage

The holding tank(s) area is heated through ducts from the coach heating system. To prevent holding tank freeze up, the furnace thermostat should be set to maintain a minimum of 35 degrees Fahrenheit in the holding tank(s) area. Be aware that exposed drains may freeze quickly.



*Typical Utility Compartment*

To assist cleaning a black tank use approximately 10 pounds of “cube” ice and one pound of rock salt. Put the ice and rock salt in the tank. Drive the vehicle for approximately 15 to 20 minutes.

The ice will help “abrade” the inside of the tank and remove solid matter. Drain the tank after the ice has melted and flush with clean water.

Your motor home is equipped with three electrical systems:

*the chassis 12-volt system*

*the 12-volt house system*

*the 120-volt AC system.*

They operate together to give you electrical power for many different situations.

## Batteries

Your motor home has two battery systems. One system supplies 12-volt DC power to start the vehicle engine. The other system supplies 12-volt DC power to the house living area and starts the generator.

### CAUTION

The systems in this coach are not designed to be used for any life-support applications. In the unlikely event a system in this coach should malfunction, or fail to operate, it is possible any connected appliances, including life support equipment, may also fail, resulting in potential medical complications.

## CHASSIS 12-VOLT ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

The chassis 12-volt or vehicle electrical system generally includes:

*chassis battery*  
*chassis/house battery charging system*  
*ignition system*  
*instrument panel and controls*  
*inverter/charger*  
*headlights, taillights, turn signals*  
*power entry step*  
*Propane detector/alarm*  
*leveling jacks (if equipped)*  
*slide-out (if equipped)*  
*fog lights (if equipped)*  
*air horns (if equipped)*  
*power seats (if equipped)*  
*radio*  
*luggage compartment lights*  
*other vehicle lights and accessories*

### CAUTION

Disconnect the 12V DC power to any electric device before attempting any service on the system. Depress or rotate the battery disconnect switches to the "off" position to disable the system.

## Chassis Bulbs and Fuses

Fuses will interrupt the flow of electricity if a circuit is overloaded.

See the *American Coach Information* section 04 in this manual for the locations of breaker and fuse panels used in your RV.

Periodically check all light bulbs to ensure they are not burned out. Always replace a light fixture with the correct bulb to prevent injury or damage to the fixture or surrounding area.

### CAUTION

Always replace bulbs and fuses with equivalent types. The type is marked on the bulb or fuse.

## 12-VOLT HOUSE AND AUTOMOTIVE SYSTEM

This system generally includes:

- *all 12-volt interior lighting fixtures & outlets*
- *fresh water pump*
- *satellite*
- *12-volt accessories*
- *power flush toilets (if equipped)*

House batteries provide 12-volt DC power. These batteries are not the chassis 12-volt batteries. Power is also provided by a DC converter that operates when the motor home electrical cord is plugged into 120-volt AC power source or by the generator (if equipped). The house batteries are charged by the motor home engine alternator, or by the converter when it is operating.



### NOTE

*Power for dash radios is available from either the chassis or house batteries. A switch on the instrument panel allows you to select the power source. If you use the dash radio, or other 12-volt DC equipment for long periods of time when the motor home engine is not running, either battery may be discharged.*

### Battery Disconnect (If Equipped)

Some accessories or equipment such as clocks, radios or the refrigerator may draw small amounts of current even when turned OFF. A manual operated rotary switch disconnect system allows you to disconnect either the chassis batteries or the coach batteries or both. Disconnecting the batteries will help reduce the likelihood of battery discharge over long storage periods. For your convenience, relay operated disconnect circuits may be equipped with your motor home. These circuits isolate selected electrical systems from either the chassis or the house batteries. Deactivating the relay(s) will prevent battery discharge which may occur over extended storage periods. During normal use of your motor home the relays must always be in the “on” position.

If you plan to store the motor home for an extended period, press the disconnect switch/es and turn off the inverter switch/es to OFF. Remember to press the switch/es to ON when you take the motor home out of storage



### NOTE

*When charging the batteries, the battery disconnect switches must be ON.*



### WARNING

Do not use the motor home when the chassis batteries are disconnected. The power step will not operate as designed if the chassis battery is disconnected. If the step is not in the correct extended position, you may be injured if you step out of the motor home.

### Battery Inspection and Care

Check the external condition of the batteries periodically. Look for cracks in the cover and case. Check the vent plugs and replace any that are cracked or broken (if equipped). Keep the batteries clean. Acid film and dirt on the battery top may permit current to flow between the terminals and discharge the battery.

#### To clean the batteries:

1. Wash the battery with a diluted solution of baking soda and water to neutralize any acid present.
2. Flush with clean water. Foaming around terminals or on top of the battery is normal acid neutralization. Avoid getting the soda solution in the battery.
3. Dry the cables and terminals.
4. Do not use grease on the bare metal inside the cable terminals to prevent corrosion. Most greases are an insulator. A plastic battery terminal spray will protect the terminals after they have been cleaned and reinstalled.
5. Keep the carrier and hold down hardware clean and free of corrosion and chemical accumulation.



### WARNING

**Before working on either electrical system shut OFF the Automatic Generator Start System (AGS), generator, inverter, chassis engine and disconnect the shore cord and negative terminals from the batteries. If you work on the electrical systems with these systems ON or connected, you may be shocked, electrocuted, or severely burned.**

### Battery Charging

Both sets of batteries will be charged by the chassis engine alternator and charging system while you are driving. The DC power converter will charge the chassis and house batteries when plugged into 120-volt AC service or by the generator (if equipped). If the battery needs to be

charged from a different charging source, please follow these safety guidelines:

- Battery disconnects are to be in the “on” position.
- Leaving a charger connected to a battery for an extended period of time can shorten battery life.
- Do not smoke near batteries being charged or which have been recently charged. Please note that batteries are being charged while you drive, and while you are connected to 120-volt AC power through the converter/charger circuit.
- Do not break live circuits at the terminals of the battery. Use care when connecting or disconnecting booster leads or cables. Attaching booster cables, and poor connections are a common cause of electrical arcs which can cause explosion.
- As required and depending on the type check and adjust the electrolyte level before charging. Fill each cell to the indicator with distilled water.
- Always remove all vent caps (if equipped) before charging the battery.
- Do not charge the battery at a rate that causes the electrolyte to spew out.
- In cold temperature storage conditions, batteries may freeze if not properly charged.
- Some motor homes are equipped with maintenance free batteries. Examine the batteries and identify which type they are so that they can be properly maintained per the appropriate manufacturer’s instructions.
- Some motor homes are equipped with a switch to set the battery charge pattern. The setting can vary depending on the type of battery. Consult your inverter manual included in the Owner’s Information Packet for additional information on battery charge pattern settings.
- Plugging your motor home into “house hold” 120 Volt power may not sufficiently charge your batteries.

### **WARNING**

Remove rings, metal watchbands, and other metal jewelry before working around a battery. Use caution when using metal tools. If a tool contacts a battery terminal or metal connected to it, a short circuit could occur which could cause personal injury, explosion or fire.

### **WARNING**

Do not allow battery electrolyte to contact skin, eyes, fabrics, or painted surfaces. The electrolyte is a sulfuric acid solution which could cause serious personal injury or property damage. Wear eye protection when working with batteries.

### **WARNING**

Never expose the battery to open flame or electric spark. Chemical action in the battery generates hydrogen gas which is flammable and explosive. Do not allow battery electrolyte (acid) to contact skin, eyes, fabrics, or painted surfaces.

### ***Solar Panel (If Equipped)***

Your new motor home may be equipped with an optional solar charger. The solar charging panel installed on the roof of your motor home is designed to “trickle-charge” your battery system. It is not intended to be a fast charger. It also cannot supply large amounts of current to operate 12-volt DC electrical equipment. When the sky is clear and under bright sun, the solar panel will help keep your batteries “topped-up”. Do not try to operate 12-volt DC appliances with the output of the solar panel.

### ***Selecting a Replacement Battery***

When the battery requires replacement, always choose a battery with the same physical and electrical characteristics as the original equipment. Your dealer or an authorized American Coach Service Center can advise you on proper battery selection.

## Electrical Systems

### **Auxiliary Start System (If Equipped)**

You can use the **Auxiliary Start System** to start the chassis engine or the generator with the house batteries if the chassis batteries are discharged or start the generator with the chassis if the “house” batteries are discharged.

#### **To use the Auxiliary Start System to start the chassis engine:**

1. Be sure the motor home is stopped.  
Shift the transmission to **N** and apply the parking brake.
2. Press and hold the **Auxiliary Start** switch on the instrument panel.
3. Start the chassis engine with the ignition switch.
4. Hold the auxiliary start switch for at least 30 seconds after motor starts before releasing.

#### **To use the Auxiliary Start System to start the generator:**

1. Press and hold the **Auxiliary Start** switch on the instrument panel.
2. Press the **Generator Start** switch until the generator is running.
3. Release the **Auxiliary Start** switch.

## **120-VOLT SYSTEM**

This system provides grounded 120-volt AC electrical service for appliances. This system includes:

- *the generator*
- *the main electrical power cord (“shore chord”)*
- *charger and inverter*
- *residential refrigerator*
- *air conditioners*
- *AV equipment*
- *microwave ovens*
- *dishwashers*

Your motor home is equipped with a heavy duty, power cord. It is commonly called the “shore cord.” This cord is used to connect to external 120-volt AC service. The cord and connector is molded together to form a weatherproof cable assembly. Do not cut or alter the cable in any way. Do not

remove the ground pin in the cable connector, or defeat the ground circuit in the motor home.

To connect the power cord to external service, turn off both the circuit breakers at the external service and the motor home power distribution panel, push the plug straight into the receptacle.



### **CAUTION**

Switch off the 50 amp main breakers located in the 120-volt AC load center (breaker panel) before you insert or remove the 50 amp power plug. Be sure to insert or remove the plug straight into or out of the receptacle. The neutral and both 120-volt volt pins should make contact at the same time to avoid excessive voltage on one leg of the circuit that could damage 120-volt appliances.



### **WARNING**

Do not operate the 120-volt electrical system without a proper ground. Electrocutation or severe electrical shock could result.

## **Power Inverter**

The inverter uses 12-volt DC power from the coach batteries and transforms it into 60-cycle, 120-volt AC power to run some of the appliances in the motor home.



### **NOTE**

*The roof air conditioners cannot be operated on power supplied by the inverter. The motor home must be plugged into an external AC service or the generator must be operating to run the air conditioners.*



### **NOTE**

*There is an inverter disconnect switch located inside the inverter compartment. The disconnect switch needs to be turned on for normal use of the inverter. The switch is intended for motor home storage and will be turned off when the motor home is delivered. Failure to turn off the inverter disconnect during motor home storage could result in discharged batteries.*

**TO ENSURE FULLY CHARGED BATTERIES CAN START ENGINE, RUN YOUR MOTOR AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 30 DAYS.**

Because the inverter uses 12-volt power, extended use of any available appliance (TV, microwave, etc.) can run the batteries down. A low power indicator and automatic shut-down system built into the inverter can help prevent deep battery discharge. When the inverter shuts down, the batteries will require recharging through the converter when the motor home is plugged into external AC service or when operating the generator. The batteries will also be recharged by the chassis charging system while on the road.

### **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)**



#### **NOTE**

*If an outlet doesn't work, check the GFCI. Reset it if necessary. If the GFCI continues to trip, have the motor home electrical system checked at an authorized American Coach Service Center or by a qualified electrician.*

Bathroom, galley, and patio 120-volt electrical outlets are protected by a **Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI)**. This device is intended to protect you against the hazards of electrical shocks possible when using electrical appliances in the bathroom or galley or in damp areas. Should a circuit or appliance (electric shaver, hair dryer, etc.) develop a potential shock hazard, the GFCI device is designed to disconnect the outlet (and other outlets on the same circuit), limiting your exposure time.

**Test the GFCI at least once a month. To test the GFCI:**

1. Connect the main power cord to 120-volt AC.
2. Push the **TEST** button. The **RESET** button should pop out, indicating that the protected circuit has been disconnected.
3. If the **RESET** button does not pop out when the test button is pushed, a loss of ground fault protection is indicated. Do not use any electrical outlets. Have the motor home electrical system checked at an authorized American Coach Service Center or by a qualified electrician. Do not use the system until the problem has been corrected.

4. To restore power push the **RESET** button.



#### **WARNING**

Do not install 12-volt fuses or 120-volt breakers with amperage ratings greater than that specified on the device or label. Doing so constitutes a fire hazard.

### **Generator (If Equipped)**

Your motor home is equipped with a diesel powered generator which will provide complete electrical self-containment when regular public utility AC power is unavailable. Controls are on the instrument panel, rear bedroom night stand and on the generator.

With the generator operating, power is available at all of the 120-volt power outlets in the motor home, just as if the power cord were connected to an external source. The generator is also connected to the power converter, thus supplying 12-volt power as well. The generator circuit breakers are located on the generator.



#### **WARNING**

Do not under any circumstances operate the generator while sleeping. You would not be able to monitor outside conditions to assure that generator exhaust does not enter the interior, and you would not be alert to exhaust odors or symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

### **Generator Fuel Supply**

Fuel for the generator is taken from the main fuel tank through a special fuel tube which is higher in the tank than the fuel tube to the motor home engine. This arrangement prevents the generator from running the motor home fuel tank dry.

### **Generator Operations**

**To start the generator:**

1. Push the control switch to its **START** position and hold it there while the status indicator light blinks rapidly indicating

## Electrical Systems

preheat. Let go when the light comes on continuously, indicating that the generator is running and that the starter has been disconnected. (Depending on how cold it is, preheat can take up to 15 seconds, extending the time that the light blinks.)



### CAUTION

Excessive cranking can overheat and damage the starter motor. Do not crank for more than 30 seconds at a time. Wait at least 2 minutes before trying again.

2. See the Troubleshooting Guide in *RV Genset Operator's Manual* located in the *Owner's Information Package* if the generator does not start after several tries.

#### To stop the generator:

1. Run the generator at no load for a few minutes to allow the engine to cool down and then push the control switch briefly to its STOP position.

### Generator Operating Safety Precautions

Read and understand the generator operating, maintenance and safety instruction furnished in your *Owner's Information Package*.

- Do not smoke or use an open flame near the generator unit or fuel tank.
- Do not use generator ventilation air for heating any space.
- Check engine fuel lines. Fuel leakage in or around the compartment is an extreme fire hazard. Do not use the generator until fuel leaks are repaired.
- Be aware of exhaust gas (carbon monoxide) poisoning symptoms. Refer to the section on *Carbon Monoxide Safety Precautions* in the *On The Road* chapter of this manual.
- Check the generator exhaust system after every usage and whenever the system may have been damaged, and repair any leaks or obstructions before further

operation. Disconnect the battery(ies) before performing any maintenance on the generator. Allow the generator to cool before performing any maintenance.

- Do not use the generator as an emergency power source to a general residential or industrial utility line. This is illegal and may cause shock or electrocution to power line utility personnel attempting to repair power lines.



### WARNING

Do not place flammable material or store any other materials in the generator compartment.



### WARNING

Do not operate the generator when parked in or near high grass or brush. Exhaust component heat may cause a fire.



### WARNING

Do not modify the generator installation or exhaust system in any way.

Do not use the generator as an emergency power source to a general residential or industrial utility line. This is illegal and may cause shock or electrocution to power line utility personnel attempting to repair power lines.



### WARNING

Do not block the generator ventilating air inlets or outlets. The engine requires a constant supply of cooling air. Restricted ventilating air inlets or outlets can cause engine failure.



### WARNING

When operating the on-board generator for electrical power and using the overhead vent fan, regardless of outside temperature, open a window "slightly". This will reduce the chances of drawing harmful Carbon Monoxide into the passenger compartment.

### **WARNING**

Exhaust gases are deadly. Inspect the generator exhaust system thoroughly before starting the generator engine. Do not block the tail pipe or situate the motor home in a place where the exhaust gases have any possibility of accumulating either outside, underneath, or inside your vehicle or any nearby vehicles. Outside air movements can carry exhaust gases inside the vehicle through windows or other openings remote from the generator exhaust. Operate the generator only when safe dispersion of exhaust gases can be assured, and monitor outside conditions to be sure that exhaust gases continue to be dispersed safely.

### **Generator Cooling System**

The generator is liquid cooled. The cooling system includes a radiator, cooling fan, water pump, a coolant reservoir/recovery container, and is similar to an automotive engine cooling system.

Check and maintain the coolant level at the coolant recovery container located on the front of the generator.

### **CAUTION**

Do not check the coolant system at the radiator cap when the generator is hot. Check the system at the **coolant recovery container** only.

### **Generator Slide-Out (If Equipped)**

The generator may be mounted on a slide-out cradle.

### **WARNING**

Keep all obstacles and body parts clear of the generator and slide-out mechanism when extending or retracting the generator.

### **Generator Maintenance**

Refer to the generator manufacturer's information in the **Owner's Information Package** for details on generator operation and maintenance.

### **Automatic Generator Start Control System (If Equipped)**

The Automatic Generator Start Control System (AGS) performs two distinct functions:

#### **1. Start the auxiliary generator automatically in response to low battery voltage.**

\*The AGS continuously monitors the coach battery system and will start the generator automatically when one "bar" is displayed on the battery level indicator.

#### **2. Start the auxiliary generator automatically in response to air conditioning requests.**

\*The AGS continuously monitors the thermostat of the air conditioning system and starts the auxiliary generator, if the temperature rises to the preset level requiring conditioning.

### **Main Features (Automatic Gen. Start)**

Easy to use push button operation controls all functions of the AGS.

Time is indicated to the hour by an internal real time clock. Quiet time periods can be entered in hours to prevent automatic operation of the auxiliary generator during inappropriate times. Hours may be set either for AM or PM.

A Time Zone indicator is provided for easy changing of local time when traveling.



### **NOTE**

For detailed information on how to use the Automatic Generator Start Control System see the **Owner's Information Package**.



### ***Power Cord Reel (If Equipped)***

The power cord reel allows you to conveniently extend and retract the power cord (shore cord) where 120-volt AC service is available. Your ***Owner's Information Package*** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.



#### **NOTE**

*Do not cut or alter the cable in any way. Do not remove the ground pin in the cable connector, or defeat the ground circuit in the motor home.*

### **MOTOR HOME FUSES AND CIRCUIT BREAKERS**

The 120-volt circuit breakers and 12-volt fuses are located on separate panels. The purpose of these panels is to provide electrical circuit breakers and fuses to interrupt current flow if a circuit is overloaded. See the ***American Coach Information*** section in this manual for the locations of breaker and fuse panels used in your RV.

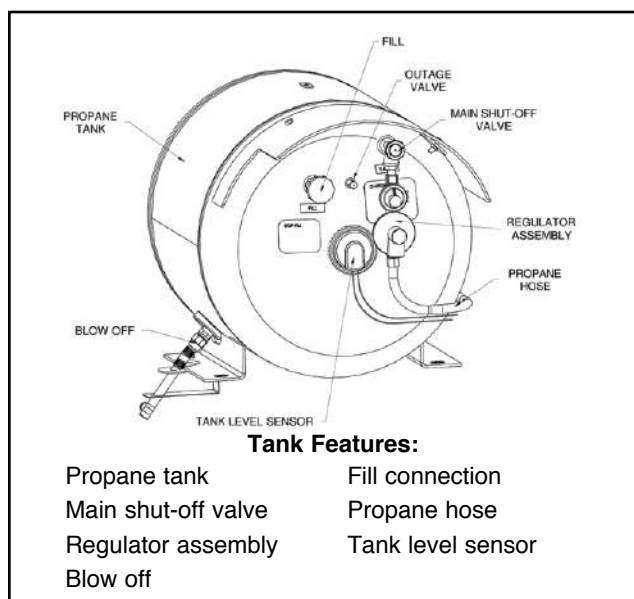
### **ELECTRICAL WIRING DIAGRAMS**

Because of the many model, floor plans and option variations available, it is beyond the scope of this manual to include wiring diagrams. In certain situations, specific wiring diagrams may be available to help troubleshoot a problem. If you need specific wiring information, please contact your dealer. Complete wiring diagrams are not available.

# PROPANE SYSTEM (If equipped)

Propane is available from an approved storage container to operate your range, oven, furnace and water heater, and as an alternate energy source for some refrigerators. With proper handling precautions, propane is safe and provides modern conveniences wherever you travel. propane is stored as a liquid under pressure and vaporizes under the control of a pressure regulator.

A typical propane tank installation is illustrated below. Although specific details of the system may differ in your motor home, the major components and their relationships will be similar to those shown.



*Typical LP Tank*

## PROPANE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Propane is a safe and reliable fuel. As with any other volatile and flammable material, common sense dictates that propane be handled and used with respect and caution. Because propane systems are so reliable, they are often taken for granted. Neglect can be a very dangerous habit. If the system is maintained regularly, you can expect almost trouble free operation.

The first time you have your propane tank filled, have the service attendant bleed a little

Propane out of the small outage valve (this also lets you check that the bottle is not overfilled) and note the odor described as garlic/rotten egg like for future reference. A small number of people cannot smell this odor; if you are one of these you must take extra care whenever you use your motor home.

Keep the tank valve closed and turn off all appliances if the unit is not being used.

## WARNING

Propane is flammable and potentially explosive. Use proper handling, lighting and ventilating procedures.

### WARNING

#### IF YOU SMELL PROPANE:

1. Extinguish any open flames, pilot lights, and all smoking materials.
2. Do not touch electrical switches.
3. Shut off the Propane supply at the container valve(s) or Propane supply connection.
4. Open doors and other ventilation openings.
5. Leave the area until the odor clears.
6. Have the Propane system checked and leakage source corrected before using again.

#### FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN EXPLOSION RESULTING IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.

1. Never check for leaks with an open flame. Use an approved leak detection solution or a non-ammoniated, non-chlorinated soap solution only.
2. Always be careful when drilling holes or fastening objects to the motor home. The Propane supply lines could be punctured by a nail or screw.
3. Do not restrict access to Propane containers. In an emergency, the container service valve must be easily identified and accessible. The container compartment door must always be unlocked, and the Propane label should be visible.
4. Do not carry or store filled or empty Propane containers, including accessories such as Propane barbecues, in your motor home. Propane containers are equipped with a safety device that relieves excessive pressure by discharging Propane into the atmosphere. Always store Propane containers outside with the valves closed and plugged.
5. Do not use any Propane container other than the one furnished with your motor home without being sure that all connecting components are compatible.

## Propane System

### **WARNING**

6. Turn off Propane main valve before filling Propane container or entering an Propane bulk plant or motor fuel service station. Turn off all pilot lights and appliances individually before refueling of motor fuel tanks and/or Propane containers. When not individually turned off, automatic ignition appliances may continue to spark when Propane is turned off at the container.

7. Do not fill Propane containers to more than 80% capacity. Overfilling can result in uncontrolled Propane flow which can cause fire and explosion. A properly filled container holds about 80% of its volume as liquid. **FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.**

8. Propane regulators must always be installed with the regulator vent facing downward. Regulators that are not in compartments have been equipped with a protective cover. Make sure that the regulator vent faces downward and that the cover is kept in place to minimize vent blockage that could result in excessive Propane pressure causing fire or explosion.

9. Do not use a wrench or pliers to close the tank shut-off valve. This valve is designed to be closed by hand. If a tool is required, the valve probably needs to be repaired or replaced.

10. If you do not have the special tools and training necessary, do not attempt to repair Propane system components.

11. Motor homes stored in enclosed garages must be well ventilated.

12. Do not modify or alter the Propane plumbing system.

13. If any appliance or piping has been serviced, ensure that a system leak check has been performed by a trained technician. This should be verified before taking delivery of the unit by a trained technician.

### **WARNING**

Propane cylinders shall not be placed or stored inside the vehicle. Propane cylinders are equipped with safety devices that relieve excessive pressure by discharging Propane to the atmosphere.

**FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.**

## SYSTEM COMPONENTS

### *Hoses*

The hoses used in your propane system meet stringent requirements, and are rated to withstand many times the pressures encountered in the system. Check the hoses for weather checking or other signs of deterioration every time you have the propane tank filled or serviced. When you replace hoses, be sure that replacements are properly rated and approved for RV use.

### *Propane Regulator*

The two-stage regulator produces approximately 11 inches of water column (less than 0.5 psi) to serve your appliances. Be sure the regulator vent stays clean and free from obstructions.

The regulator is mounted so that the vent is facing downward and is protected by a cover. Be sure the cover is on at all times. If the vent becomes clogged, it can be cleaned with a toothbrush. If corrosion is evident, contact a qualified propane service technician for assistance.

### **WARNING**

Do not attempt to adjust the regulator. It has been preset by the regulator manufacturer. If any adjustment is required, it must be made by a qualified Propane service technician using special equipment.

## USING PROPANE SYSTEM AT LOW TEMPERATURES

Your propane system will function at low temperatures, provided the system components are kept at a temperature above the vapor point of the propane. Ask your propane supplier or your motor home dealer for information on product blends available in your area and the areas in which you will be traveling.

The following chart shows the reduction in available BTU's/hour under various fill levels as the temperature drops:

20 LB. TANK*					
% FULL	+ 20°	0°	-5°	-10°	-15°
60%	36,000	18,000	12,750	8,500	4,250
50%	32,400	16,200	12,150	8,100	4,050
40%	28,800	14,400	11,400	7,600	3,800
30%	25,200	12,600	10,450	7,300	3,150
20%	21,600	10,800	8,100	5,400	2,700
10%	16,200	8,100	6,075	4,050	2,025

\*30 lb. Tank multiply x 1.40

The chart clearly shows how the availability of the propane is reduced at lower temperatures. With this in mind, keep your propane tank as full as possible during cold weather. Check the BTU/hr rating plates on your propane appliances.

## FILLING PROPANE TANKS

To fill the chassis-mounted storage tank, drive the vehicle to an propane supplier or a service station which sells propane. Do not attempt to fill the propane tank yourself.

### WARNING

Do not fill propane containers to more than 80% capacity. Overfilling can result in uncontrolled propane flow which can cause fire and explosion. A properly filled container holds about 80% of its volume as liquid. **FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.**

### WARNING

Turn off propane main valve before filling propane tank or entering a propane bulk plant or motor fuel service station. Turn off all pilot lights and appliances individually before refueling of motor fuel tanks and/or propane containers. When not individually turned off, automatic ignition appliances may continue to spark when Propane is turned off at the container.

## PROPANE SYSTEM CHECK

Do a visual check of all exposed piping and fittings after you have arrived at a destination and before you use the propane system.

Keep the tank valve closed and turn off all appliances if the unit is not being used.

Always have the system checked by a professional any time you detect a garlic/rotten egg like odor or hear a sustained hiss when you turn the propane on.

### WARNING

Never check for leaks with an open flame. Do not check copper and brass plumbing lines and fittings for leaks using ammoniated or chlorinated house-hold type detergents. These can cause cracks to form on the line and brass fittings. If the leak cannot be located, take the unit to a propane service representative.

## PROPANE LEAK DETECTOR/ALARM

A permanently installed propane leak detector/alarm is located near the floor inside your motor home. The unit contains an alarm that will sound alerting you to the presence of low levels of potentially dangerous propane that may have accumulated.

The detector/alarm unit is powered by the 12-volt DC system in your motor home. A green light on the detector/alarm front panel indicates that the detector/alarm has power.

Test the leak detector/alarm each time the motor home is relocated and set up for use. Detailed information for the leak detector/alarm can be found in the *Owner's Information Package*.

### WARNING

The propane alarm cannot detect propane gas or sound the alarm for two minutes after it has been turned on.

### NOTE

When the propane alarm is in the "active" and functioning mode, the green LED will be illuminated.

## Propane System

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### Testing Procedure

#### **WARNING**

Never use a cigarette lighter to test the propane alarm. Damage to the sending unit of the alarm may occur, disabling the alarm from operating correctly.

#### **WARNING**

Test the operation of the propane alarm after the unit has been in storage, before each trip and a minimum of once per week.

1. To test the propane alarm press the TEST/MUTE button any time the alarm is powered. The LED should turn RED and an audible alarm will sound. Releasing the switch will deactivate the alarm.

#### **WARNING**

In the event the alarm does not sound or the RED LED fails to illuminate replace the alarm or have it serviced by an authorized technician.

2. The GREEN LED will turn RED and the audible alarm will sound whenever the level of propane exceeds the alarm threshold. The unit will continue to sound until the propane level drops below a predetermined threshold or when the MUTE button is pressed.
3. To test the TEST/MUTE button when the alarm is sounding, press once. The alarm should stop emitting a tone.
4. The RED LED will remain activated in the event propane levels are above accepted threshold.

5. When the levels of propane drop below a predetermined threshold the LED will turn GREEN.
6. In the event there are levels of propane above the accepted threshold the audible alarm will reactivate after approximately 90 seconds.
7. In the event the propane alarm is defective the LED will turn YELLOW. Have the propane alarm immediately replaced or serviced by an authorized technician.
8. Your propane alarm will operate down to 8 volts DC. Do not operate the vehicle in the event the batteries drop below 8 volts DC. Battery voltage can be checked and monitored on the monitor located in the front of the vehicle.

### Procedures to Take During an Alarm

1. Turn off all gas appliances. This includes but is not limited to the stove, heater, furnace, etc.
2. Extinguish all open flames and smoking materials
3. Evacuate the unit. Leave the doors and windows open during evacuation.
4. Turn off the propane tank valve. The propane tank is located in an exterior luggage compartment. It is identified by not having a “key lock” feature.
5. Determine and repair the source of the leak. See a professional for assistance.

#### **WARNING**

Do not re-enter the vehicle until the source of the propane leak has been identified and repaired.

## Propane System

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### LED AND ALARM SIGNALS

Color	Alarm Operation	Alarm
Solid GREEN	Normal	Off
Solid RED	Alarm	Continuous Tone
Solid YELLOW	Malfunction	Continuous Tone



#### NOTE

For additional information regarding the operation of the propane alarm consult the "Owner's Information Package" supplied with the vehicle.



#### WARNING

If your motor home is equipped with battery disconnect devices, the propane leak detector/alarm will not function if battery disconnect(s) are OFF.



#### NOTE

The detector/alarm draws enough current to discharge your battery. Remember to turn off the chassis and house battery disconnects if you are not using your motor home.

### LIGHTING PROPANE APPLIANCES

Detailed operating information for the Propane appliances can be found in your **Owner's Information Package**. Please read and follow these instructions.

Air trapped in the propane lines may delay the initial lighting of any appliance. It could take several seconds or minutes for the propane to reach the appliance. To purge some of the air from the propane system, first light a burner on the range. The other appliances will then light more quickly.

The first time the furnace or oven is operated, paints and oils used in its manufacture may generate some smoke and fumes. If this occurs, open doors and windows to air out the motor home. These materials should burn off after the first 15 to 20 minutes of appliance operation.

***Always follow the appliance manufacturer's lighting, operating and maintenance instructions.***

Muscular twitching

***Intense headache***

***Throbbing in temples***

***Weakness and sleepiness***

***Inability to think clearly***



#### WARNING

The propane detector/alarm is powered by a 12 volt source. Any interruption in power will render this alarm inoperative. Always ensure power is applied especially when appliances are in use.

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The appliances installed in your motor home are tested and listed, and comply with standards from UL or similar agencies. All appliances are covered by American Coach's **Owner Care Warranty** program. Each appliance is also warranted by its manufacturer.



## NOTE

The individual appliance manuals included in your **Owner's Information Package** contain detailed operating and maintenance instructions. Always refer to the respective manual for the appliance in question.



## WARNING

The water heater and furnace combustion air exhaust ports may be hot when the water heater and furnace are operating. Do not touch these outlets or allow any material to come near the exhaust ports while operating the water heater and/or furnace.

### WATER HEATER (If Equipped)

The water heater operates on propane, or, if so equipped, with 120-volt AC power, and is much like the one in your home. It contains an automatic shut off valve which stops the propane supply if the water temperature rises too high.

The water heater is reached through an access panel on the outside of the motor home.

Turn on the hot water faucet at the galley sink. If water flows continuously the heater is full.



## CAUTION

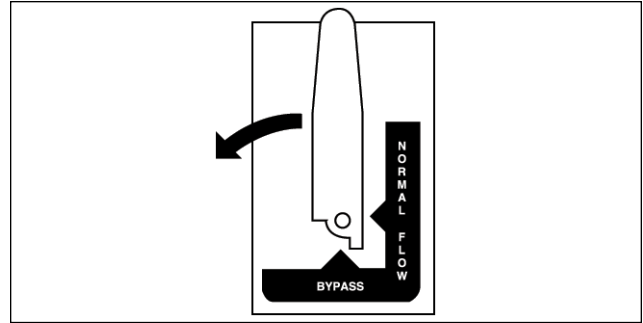
Do not light water heater until it is filled with water.

### Water Heater Bypass Valve

This valve is provided to cut off the flow of water to the water heater. The water heater bypass valve greatly reduces the quantity of antifreeze required to winterize the water system. The valve is usually located near the water heater. Consult with your dealer for the location in your particular unit.

To bypass the water heater, turn the lever valve vertical.

To supply water heater with water, turn lever horizontal.



### REFRIGERATOR

Read the operating instructions furnished in your **Owner's Information Package** and determine which type of refrigerator is installed in your motor home. Some motor homes may have a "residential" refrigerator and operating instructions may differ. Before operating the refrigerator when the motor home is parked, make sure it is level. If it is not level, the refrigerant will not circulate, cooling action will stop, and the refrigeration system may be damaged.

The standard type RV refrigerator uses the absorption principle of operation. If you plan to cool food or drinks in high outside temperatures, precool the food, and, if possible, park the motor home with the refrigerator vent door in the shade. Once the interior of the refrigerator is cool, the refrigeration system will usually maintain this temperature. If the inside of the refrigerator is hot, the food is not precooled, and the outside temperature is high, it will take longer for your food to be cooled.

### FORCED AIR FURNACE (If Equipped)

The furnace is a forced-air unit fueled by propane. All furnaces are equipped with a wall thermostat for temperature setting.

The furnace will not operate properly if your stored personal items block the free flow of air



## Appliances

at the registers or the return air to the furnace. Storage under cabinets should be done carefully so as to not crush or damage any furnace ducting.

Smoke and fumes created as a result of burning off manufacturing compounds are sometimes present the first time the furnace is used. This is normal; however, when you light the furnace the first time, open all windows and doors until the residues are completely burned off.

Always follow the appliance manufacturer's lighting and operating instructions.

If the furnace does not keep you comfortably warm, NEVER use the range, oven or a catalytic heater for supplementary heat — even with a vent or window open.

Combustion air for the furnace comes from outside the RV. The products of combustion from the furnace (carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and other gases) are returned to the outside air.

### WARNING

Portable fuel-burning appliances are not safe for heating inside the motor home. Asphyxiation or carbon monoxide poisoning can occur.

## HYDRONIC HEATING SYSTEM (If Equipped)

Your motor home may be equipped with a Hydronic heating system. The Hydronic heating system is an on-board heating system that provides an on-demand, continuous supply of domestic hot water, as well as interior heat where and when it is needed. Both heating features are accomplished by a diesel-fired burner and an electric heating element (120 volt/AC). These two heating sources maintain the temperature of the 50/50 solution of water and antifreeze. In addition, the hydronic heating system may have the added feature designed to preheat the vehicle's engine prior to starting. This feature provides easy engine start-up when cold weather conditions exist.

### CAUTION

The Hydronic Heating System Exhaust is HOT!

DO NOT park in areas (i.e. dry, grassy fields) where dry conditions exist underneath the vehicle, as a fire may result.

DO NOT operate the heating inside an enclosed building.

Operating the Hydronic Heating System diesel burner or electric heating element without the 50/50 solution of water and antifreeze will cause serious damage to the heater.

The heater must be shut OFF when refueling.

## RANGE

The propane oven and burners are operated with propane. The basic operation is the same as the range in your home.

This warning label has been located in the cooking area to remind you to provide an adequate supply of fresh air for combustion. Unlike homes, the amount of oxygen supply is limited due to the size of the recreational vehicle, and proper ventilation when using the cooking appliances(s) avoids dangers of asphyxiation. It is especially important that cooking appliances not be used for comfort heating as the danger of asphyxiation is greater when the appliances is used for long periods of time. Refer to **Lighting Propane Appliances** section in the **Propane System** chapter of this manual.

When you use the range oven for cooking or baking, always open a vent or window to provide ventilation. Never operate the range or oven when you are sleeping or if your alertness is

### WARNING

It is not safe to use cooking appliances for comfort heating. Cooking appliances need fresh air for safe operation.

Before operation:

1. Open overhead vent or turn on exhaust fan, and
2. Open window.

FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.

impaired in any way. **FAILURE TO COMPLY COULD RESULT IN DEATH OR SERIOUS INJURY.**

Your motor home may be equipped with an electric stove top and oven. These items do not produce carbon monoxide but can get hot and burn food, clothing, human appendages and potentially start fires. Use caution when using the electric cook top. For additional information regarding your electric cook top and/or oven consult your Owner's Information Packet



### **WARNING**

Do not use open flames to warm the living area. Gas combustion consumes the oxygen inside the motorhome.

## **RANGE EXHAUST HOOD**

The exhaust hood allows vapors and cooking odors to escape, and may provide a vent for the galley area. Switches for the fan and light are located either on the range hood or the front of the microwave. The hood has grease filter screen(s) which require periodic cleaning. To clean, remove the screens and wash in soapy water. Rinse with water and let the screens drain dry.

If needed, replace the light bulb with an equivalent type bulb listed in the appliance owner's manual.

## **AIR CONDITIONER WITH HEAT PUMP**

The roof-mounted air conditioner(s) can operate only when the motor home is connected to 120-volt AC power from either a public utility or the generator. Be sure the air conditioner circuit breaker is ON.

Each return air duct is equipped with a filter. Check these filters at regular intervals for accumulations of dust that could restrict air flow.

For best performance, park the motor home in the shade and close curtains. Close doors and windows and set the thermostat for desired coolness. Refer to the air conditioner

manufacturer's instructions for detailed operating and preventive maintenance requirements. Remember that air conditioners use a large portion of your available electric power.

Experience has shown that some RV parks may experience reduced power (low voltage) on days with high heat or humidity, commonly referred to as a "brown out." This condition may result in the air conditioner circuit breaker tripping in your power distribution center. This protects your air conditioner motor from damage and is necessary during low voltage conditions. This breaker tripping is sometimes perceived as a fault in your motor home, but it is a necessary "safety valve."

The heat pump feature will provide 5,600 BTU's of warm air from the ceiling plenum. The heat from the heat pump is not intended to heat the entire motor home. It is intended to warm the bedroom and "take the chill off the air".

## **TELEVISIONS AND DVD PLAYERS**



### **NOTE**

*Your motor home is equipped with a ceiling-ducted air conditioning system. For most efficient operation, adjust each vent so that is completely open. If you change the vent opening to regulate air flow try not to restrict the vent opening to below 70% open. Restricting air flow below this opening will affect the efficiency of the air conditioner.*

All televisions and DVD players are set up to operate on a 120-volt AC power source. This source can be from the generator, shore cord or inverter.

When cleaning the television or other electrical entertainment device consult the appropriate operational and service manual for recommended practices. The information is located in the Owner's Information Packet. This will help avoid scratching, discoloring or otherwise damaging the appearance of the component.

## **LCD AND LED TELEVISIONS**

The television is set-up to operate on a 120-volt AC power source. This source can be from

## Appliances

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the generator, shore cord or inverter. The front television will not operate while the motor home is in motion because of a power lock-out feature.



### NOTE

*Do not operate the rear television while the vehicle is in motion. Your **Owner's Information Package** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.*

### WHOLE COACH SURGE PROTECTION (If Equipped)

The whole coach surge protection unit is located in the basement electrical compartment. The system is set-up to protect the 120-volt AC power source. This will include protection of the generator, shore power and the inverter. Your **Owner's Information Package** contains detailed operating and maintenance instructions concerning this system.

### POWER TV ANTENNA (If Equipped)

The roof-mounted antenna is designed for reception of VHF, UHF and "other over the air television signals.

### SATELLITE DISH ANTENNA

The roof-mounted satellite dish antenna is designed for reception of digital satellite television signals.

Activation of the system will require enrollment in a service program from a satellite communications provider. Available High Definition (HD) content is a function of your service provider and the capability of your antenna to receive the HD signal. Please consult with your service provider on the programming content available with your particular antenna.

**In motion domed antennas are ready for transit without storing.**

### SATELLITE RADIO (If Equipped)

The satellite radio is located in the dash. The radio will require membership enrollment. Your **Owner's Information Package** contains detailed operating instructions concerning this system.

## MICROWAVE OVEN

The microwave oven is powered by 120-volt AC power and will only operate when connected. A wall receptacle for the microwave is located in the overhead cabinet adjacent to the microwave cabinet.



### WARNING

Inductive Cook Tops and Microwaves have been known to electrically interfere with pacemakers and other electrical medical devices. Persons with electronic medical devices should exercise care when in the general vicinity when operating these devices. Consult the appliance manual for further information.

## WASHER/DRYER-READY OPTION

If your RV is equipped with an electric dryer-ready option, and if an electric dryer is installed in the future by either you, your dealer or another appliance installer, the installation must comply with the following instructions:

1. The clothes dryer moisture-lint exhaust vent duct must not be connected to any other duct, vent, or chimney.
2. The exhaust duct must be of sufficient length so as not to terminate beneath the recreation vehicle.
3. The exhaust duct must not be connected with sheet metal screws or other fasteners that extend into the interior of the duct.
4. The exhaust duct and termination fittings must be installed in accordance with the appliance manufacturer's printed instructions.

## MISCELLANEOUS APPLIANCES

You may have additional appliances in your unit which operate only when connected to 120-volt power from either a public utility or the generator.

In some cases, appliance selector switches are provided in the galley to allow you to select combinations of appliances yet still remain within the power capacity of the electrical system.

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# MAINTENANCE

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Your motor home has been designed to provide you with many years of use with a minimum amount of maintenance. This section will familiarize you with the areas of your motor home that require scheduled care. Time spent taking care of your motor home on a regular basis will pay for itself in extended service and will help protect your investment.

If you are mechanically inclined and regularly perform routine maintenance and repairs on your car or truck, you may want to do the mechanical work on your motor home yourself. If you prefer, your dealer can perform these services for you. Dealer trained personnel will assure that your motor home is maintained and repaired in keeping with original performance expectations.

This section is intended to provide the owner and operator with a general overview of service and maintenance information for the motor home. Detailed service and maintenance information may be found in the owner's/operator's manuals contained in the *Owner's Information Package*.

While the information in this section is intended to establish proper maintenance and inspection procedures, there may be times when detailed diagnostic and repair procedures may be required. Consult your dealer or an authorized American Coach Service Center in these situations.

## EXTERIOR

Some exterior parts of your motor home are made of fiberglass. The finish on these parts is durable, but not indestructible. Any material and finish will deteriorate in time. Exposure to sunlight, moisture and airborne pollutants can cause dulling and fading of the finish. Generally, changes in the finish due to weathering are cosmetic - they are on the surface of the part and do not affect its strength. Weathering can take the form of chalking, fading and yellowing.

The best insurance against these effects is routine maintenance. If the finish is not washed and waxed thoroughly, the surface can deteriorate

rapidly. The following maintenance guidelines can help you reduce these weathering effects:

1. When the motor home is not in use, keep the fiberglass surfaces out of the sun or covered with a canvas tarpaulin. Avoid using plastic or other nonporous materials which can trap moisture between the cover and the fiberglass surface.

## CAUTION

A tarp or any cover must be properly secured (tied down) to prevent damage to the exterior paint. A "flapping" tarp or cover has the potential to "abrade" the surface resulting in damage to the motor home.

2. Wash the exterior with a mild soap. Avoid strong alkaline cleaners and abrasives. For the best results, use a cleaner formulated for fiberglass, and follow the directions for using the cleaner. **DO NOT use automatic dishwasher detergent, abrasives, bleaches, strong chemicals with acids/bases, or ammonia.**
3. Wax the exterior at least once a year – twice, if possible – with a wax formulated for fiberglass. When waxing, always read and follow the instructions and precautions on the container. Some cleaners and waxes are recommended for use on only certain types of surfaces. As with automobiles, covered storage yields best results for longevity of exterior appearance and ease of maintenance.
4. In some cases, a light rubbing compound, finishing material, or other product advertised to restore fiberglass, may be required. Always follow the manufacturer's instruction. Always use a high quality wax after treatment.

## Stains

Stains are generally caused by two types of substances - water soluble and non-water soluble. Water soluble stains can usually be washed away with water and mild detergent. Follow the washing with wax.

Non-water soluble stains are usually oil-based. Removal of this type of stain may require the use of highly flammable or poisonous solvents. Refer this type of service to an authorized American Coach Dealer. Never use strong solvents or abrasives to clean plastic surfaces.

### ***How to Maintain, Care for, and Repair the Finish on your American Coach Motor Home***

DuPont Axalta Chromax® provides superior protection against the elements your recreational vehicle will face throughout its life. To make sure you maximize the benefits of the DuPont Axalta Chromax®, use the following guide to take care of your finish.

- Wash your vehicle often, especially when exposed to salty, dusty, acidic or alkaline environments.
- When washing your vehicle, use commercially available car wash soaps specifically designed for washing cars. These soaps are non-abrasive and have a neutral pH (non acidic or alkaline) detergent. Do not use solvent based solutions for washing large areas.
- During the **first 30 days when the finish is still fresh, clean the vehicle with water rinse only**. Pressure washers used when paint is still fresh could affect the finish. Avoid high pressure too close to areas that have stone chips visible on fresh paint.
- Do not wash vehicle using extremely hot water or while the surface is hot. (Do not wash vehicle in the hot sun).
- Avoid washing with stiff bristles. Soft cloth and felt brushes are recommended. Avoid machine type automated washing systems.
- Do not allow spilled gasoline, anti-freeze, hydraulic fluid, or windshield washer fluid to stand on the paint – remove immediately by rinsing with water.
- **Do not wax for the first 60 days.**

- Ice and snow should be brushed, not scraped off.
- Have any paint nicks or scratches repaired as soon as they occur to protect against corrosion.
- Should your RV's finish become damaged, have it repaired as soon as possible. Contact a reputable repair shop near you and specify the DuPont Axalta Chromax® used for the original finish (the color formula will be located on the vehicle). This will assure you the best possible color match and the same durability and appearance as when your vehicle was new.
- For the name of the nearest DuPont Repair Facility call:  
1-800-GET-DUPONT or  
visit us on the web at:  
[www.performancecoatings.dupont.com](http://www.performancecoatings.dupont.com)

### ***Exterior Graphics Care***

The pressure sensitive graphics installed on the exterior surfaces of your motor home require little maintenance and should be treated similarly to a painted surface. Here are some guidelines to help you keep your exterior graphics looking like new.

1. Wash your graphics with any mild car wash soap solution. Be sure to rinse thoroughly.
2. Keep high-pressure wash nozzles at least 1½ feet from the edge of the graphics. High pressure spray may cause the edge of the graphic to lift and peel away from the wall surface.
3. Test any cleaning solution on a small section of the graphic before using the cleaning solution on a larger surface.
4. Do not use any aromatic solvents such as acetone, MEK, toluene, paint thinner, lacquer thinner on your graphics. Any solvent of this type may soften or smear colors.
5. Do not paint over the graphics with clear or any other type of paint.

## Maintenance

6. Do not let gasoline or other fuels drip or stay on graphics for any length of time. If a spill occurs, wipe off and rinse with water immediately.
7. Do not apply wax over graphics, especially if the wax contains any petroleum distillates. Wax that has dried between stripes can be removed by softening it with rubbing (isopropyl) alcohol and cotton swabs. Be sure to rinse the area after cleaning.
8. Be careful when storing your motor home. The graphic materials should be protected from prolonged direct sunlight and heat.
9. In the event you have added a “bra” to the front of your unit, periodically remove the bra and wash under the area. Allow to air dry.

### **Windows, Doors, Vents, and Locks**

Keep moving parts, hinges and latches adjusted and maintained. Lubricate with a light oil at least once a year. Check and tighten the screws holding the windows in place as required. Clean screens by gently wiping with a damp cloth or soft flat brush. Not all screens are easily removable, and can be destroyed and may need to be replaced.

**Inspect the sealants around doors and windows every three months. See *Sealant Renewal* section.**

Lubricate lock sets in doors and exterior storage compartments at least annually with powdered graphite. If the motor home is located at a beach or is exposed to salt air, more frequent lubrication may be required.

## **FIBERGLASS ROOF SYSTEM**

### ***Cleaning***

Your motor home is equipped with a fiberglass roof. For normal cleaning, standard household detergents or cleansers may be used. Use a nonabrasive, common household non-scented dishwashing detergent and plenty of water. Be sure to keep the sidewalls wet to reduce streaking.

## **Care**

The fiberglass roof itself does not require annual coatings or additional sealants. Periodic washing with soap and water is all that is required.

Use caution when loading sharp articles on the roof. If you add accessories or new equipment on the roof, be sure the installer is qualified to work on the fiberglass roof material. This is required under the terms of the warranty.

### **WARNING**

The fiberglass roof material is slippery when it is wet. A wet surface increases the potential to slip and possibly fall off the roof. Always use extreme care when working on the roof performing any activity such as inspections or repairs.

Repair kits are available through your dealer. The roof requires special adhesives and material.

### **Sealant Renewal**

This section outlines the procedures *you must* follow to maintain the weatherproof integrity of your motor home. Leak damage caused by failure to inspect and maintain the roof, vents, A/C gasket, TV/satellite antenna and molding seals may affect your warranty coverage.

The adhesives and sealants used in the construction of your motor home were developed to remain waterproof under sustained effects of weather and vibration. However, even



### **NOTE**

*Failure to seal could cause serious damage and will affect your warranty coverage.*

the finest materials will eventually dry out and lose their effectiveness.

Your dealer can perform the resealing inspection and work for you. Your dealer also has current information on sealants used in your motor home, and can recommend the appropriate sealants for you if you prefer to do this work yourself. Always use the recommended sealants.

## EXTERIOR SEALANTS

Consult your American Coach Motor Home Dealer for the most current sealant use.

- Windshield
- Window sealant
- Roof Sealant
- Vents
- A/C Gasket
- Exterior Trim & Lights
- Skylights

## DOOR, WINDOW, ROOF COMPONENT AND MOLDING RESEALING

Inspect the sealants around windows, floors, joints and doors at least every three months. Also inspect roof vents, other roof components, moldings at front and rear caps, and perimeter molding. If any of the following defects are evident during inspection, the affected areas must be resealed.

- Sealant cracked or peeling.
- Void or missing sealant.

**If you find any of the above defects:**

1. Clean all areas to be resealed with an appropriate cleaner and clean rags.
2. Make sure that all areas to be resealed are absolutely dry before new sealant is applied.



### NOTE

*Do not seal the bottom flanges of windows and doors. Special gaps in the sealant have been intentionally left in the bottom flange to provide drainage.*

## INTERIOR

### Fabrics

Interior appointments such as draperies, bedspreads, mattress covers, upholstery and wall decorations are manufactured from high quality materials and should be dry cleaned only. Frequent vacuuming will keep them free of dust and dirt. Minor spills should be cleaned up quickly to avoid staining. The affected area should be blotted, not rubbed, to prevent the stain from working deeper into the fabric.

Avoid frequent washing of the window treatments. Washing of these fabrics has the potential to remove the fire retardant material.



### WARNING

Do not use lacquer thinner, nail polish remover, carbon tetrachloride, spot remover, gasoline, or naphtha for any cleaning purpose. These products may cause damage to the material being cleaned, and may be highly flammable or poisonous.

### ***Solid Surface Top Care (If Equipped)***

The counter top is constructed of a solid surface material that requires little care. Routine care involves wiping the surface with a damp cloth to remove water marks. For stains, wipe with soapy water or non-ammonia based cleaners. Do not use abrasive cleansers or steel wool.

### ***Laminate Top Care (If Equipped)***

For cleaning laminate surfaces, use mild dish washing liquid with warm water. Use a soft cloth for both washing and drying.

Do not use abrasive cleaners, steel wool, or gritty cleaners or damage will occur to the surface.

### ***Walls and Ceiling Panels***

The paneling and the ceiling of your motor home may be any of several finishes and textures. Never use harsh detergents or abrasive cleaners on walls or ceilings. Most surfaces will clean with a soft cloth moistened with mild liquid detergent in warm water, or a clear non-ammonia window cleaner solution. Do not scrub the surface or use large amounts of water which could saturate the material. Simply spray or apply the solution to the spot and blot with a clean dry rag or paper towel. Aggressive scrubbing may damage the texture or pattern.

## Maintenance

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### ***Attaching Accessories to Your Motor Home***

The sidewalls of your motor home are built with a polymer panel.

Structural members are located specifically to mount and attach factory-installed components and accessories, and may not be located to accommodate after-market accessories not specifically designed for use on or in your motor home.

**Exterior:** Please consult with your dealer before attempting to install or mount accessories on the sidewalls or roof of your motor home. **Holes drilled in the sidewall may cause damage, and may affect portions of your warranty.**

**Interior:** If you want to attach items to the interior walls, **YOU MUST USE RIVETS**. The rivets can be installed with a hand-operated tool such as the Arrow E-Z Pull Model RH200. This and similar tools are available in most hardware stores and home improvement centers

When you install a component, carefully mark the hole location and drill a 3/16" hole where the rivet is to be located.

If you need rivets, contact your American Coach Dealer.

### **CAUTION**

Do not use any type of screw to attach items to the interior or exterior walls of your motor home. If you want to attach items to the walls, you must use expanding head type rivets. Rivet quality, length, and grip range, will vary depending on item to be attached.

### ***Plastic/Fiberglass/Tile Shower Stall***

Some cleaners attack the plastic, fiberglass or tile causing it to discolor and become brittle. The following cleaners have been tested and approved when mixed with water:

- Distilled vinegar
- Mild dishwasher detergent
- Liquid deodorizing cleaner.

Avoid cleaners that contain any amount of abrasives, acetone, ammonia or MEK (methyl ethyl ketone).

### ***Floors and Carpeting***

Vinyl flooring requires only washing and periodic waxing. Vacuum carpeting regularly, and clean it with a quality carpet cleaner. Do not use water or waxes mixed with water on the wood floor.

### ***Tile Floor (If Equipped)***

These recommendations have been included as recommendations only - consult a tile installation professional in the event additional information is needed on the process is not applicable. Cementitious grout, as you may have observed, is porous - it can absorb a stain. Looked at under a microscope, there is a large surface area to absorb stains. For this reason, many owners choose to seal their grout...usually the better the sealer, the more the grout joint is protected. Even better, if epoxy grout is used, it is virtually as stain proof as the tile.

Removing stains from cementitious grout is similar to removing stains from clothing. The same cleaners you might use on clothes to get out a stain should also work on grout.

Keep in mind though, that **grout is based primarily of cement and sand**. Sand, like glass, is unaffected chemically by most cleaners. **Cement is not; rather it is alkaline based and is dissolved by acids**. As baking soda and vinegar react, so do grout and vinegar.

**Accordingly, it is better to clean grout with an alkaline cleaner** (Spec and Span, Mr. Clean, etc.) **than an acid based cleaner**. There are also specialty cleaners available at most tile retailers that are designed for tile and grout. There are also cleaners with enzymes that attack stains similar to enzyme pre-soaks for laundry.

The same cleaner that works on the grout generally will work well on the tile. In fact, since the tile is usually so easy to clean, the tile can often be cleaned with water.



Just a few more important points: As the grout can absorb the soap as well as a stain

- do not clean with oil or wax based cleaners
- Murphy's Oil soap, Pine Sol, etc. These products will leave a waxy or oily film in the grout...And, even good alkaline cleaners if not properly rinsed, will leave a sticky soap film. This usually attracts dirt. In fact, truly clean ceramic tile without any sticky soap film will stay very clean as tile does not tend to hold an electrostatic charge (which can attract some kinds of dirt).

The absolutely best way to clean grout is to apply the cleaner and then vacuum ("shop vac") up the dirty water. This lifts the dirt off the joint. Apply rinse water and vacuum that water up. This lifts off any remaining soap film.

Just to mention it, *there are tile installers that remove very stubborn stains on grout with an acid (like straight vinegar or a stronger acid). There they have elected to dissolve the top layer of grout molecules so the stain is no longer attached to anything. While this works, it is not recommended by the grout manufacturers* - needing to regrout is sometimes the result. Also, extreme care should be used when handling any acids.

Should you be unable to get your grout clean through conventional methods, you may also want to try steam. Some stains that do not respond to conventional cleaners will come clean when subjected to pressurized steam. As a last resort, some installers elect to cut out the grout and regrout. This is possible although care must be taken to not damage or loosen the tile. Generally it is not possible to grout directly over the old grout without cutting the old grout out. The same contaminants that made the old grout dirty may prevent new grout from sticking properly.

### Engine Access

The top of the engine may be accessed from inside the motor home for service by lifting or removing the engine cover. Look for the latches or screws that are used in securing the engine access cover. The engine access cover cannot be removed without disengaging the latches or screws.

#### **WARNING**

The interior engine cover is heavy. Use care when opening or closing the cover to avoid damage or injury to personnel from lifting.

#### **WARNING**

When installing the engine cover, be sure the cover is fully seated on the gasket seal and secured by the clamps. Do not allow insulation, carpeting, or other material to interrupt the seal between the cover and the engine compartment. If the engine cover is not installed correctly, engine exhaust gases could leak into the passenger compartment creating a safety hazard. If the engine must be run with the engine cover off for maintenance purposes, be sure the vehicle interior is adequately ventilated.

### GENERATOR FILTERS

Consult your American Coach Motor Home Dealer or see the **GenSet Service and Parts Directory** in your *Owner's Information Package*.

Oil Filter

Fuel Pump Filter

Element Fuel Filter

### ACRYLIC ASSIST HANDLES

*(If Equipped)*

Do not use any cleaners that contain ammonia, petroleum, ammonia based, or petroleum based products. Most glass cleaners are ammonia based. Most tar removers are petroleum based.

**Wash Assembly with MILD SOAP AND WATER ONLY!**

### WINDSHIELD WIPERS & WASHER

Your motor home is equipped with windshield wipers that are located on the upper front cap. Having the proper windshield washer solution will be an important step in maintaining your system in good operating order.

#### **CAUTION**

Use only a windshield washer solution that is rated at a minimum of - 20 degrees F (-8 deg C) to prevent damage to the system from freezing up.

### MAINTENANCE GUIDELINE

While many RV owner's use their RV for weekend and vacation travel, others may use their RV full-time. Full-time use of an RV can considerably affect its condition as well as maintenance requirements. As long as you are not full-timing or traveling under several climate conditions, the normal maintenance guidelines that are outlined in your Owner's Manual will ensure your RV will provide you many years of enjoyable use. Severe climates, either hot or cold, can affect your seals, sealants, plumbing, propane system, and cause internal condensation issues. Full-timing can cause extra wear and tear to your RV, simply from continuous usage and/or extensive miles driven. If you are a full-timer or using your RV in severe climate conditions, follow the "full-timer/severe climate" scheduled maintenance program, as outlined in your Owners Manual. By following this maintenance schedule, you should be able to prolong the life and enjoy your RV for many years to come.

For your convenience, a maintenance guideline is presented. Options and accessories usually have their own owner/user manuals that often contain maintenance instructions. Consult these manuals as required. *Modify any suggested maintenance schedule as use conditions or performance requires.*

## Maintenance

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Wash exterior	●						
Wax exterior				▲	●		
Lubricate and adjust exterior locks, hinges, roof vents, window mechanisms, etc.				▲	●		
Lubricate power step mechanism	●						
Check all exterior sealants, around windows, doors, sidewall seams, windshield, lamps, all exterior openings, A/C gaskets and roof components. Re-seal if necessary.	▲		●				
Inspect and clean fuel-fired appliance vents: Water heater, refrigerator, furnace.	●						
Inspect and clean water pump, water dispenser and whole coach filters.			▲		●		
Inspect all hot, cold drain plumbing.				▲	●		
Inspect, test and service safety equipment, fire extinguisher, Propane*, CO* and smoke* detectors/alarms, and GFI receptacles.	●						
Complete Propane pressure check and system check			▲!		!		
Service appliances and equipment: refrigerator, roof air conditioner, furnace, generator, etc.						●	
Inspect generator exhaust system	●						
Inspect Propane system components	●						
Sanitize fresh water tank					●		
Clean drapes and interior fabrics				●			
Check exterior lamp operation	●						
Check slide-out room function and sealing (if equipped)	●						
Chassis (refer to chassis operator's manual)							●
Inspect hydronic exhaust system	●						

\* Annual battery replacement for safety detectors/alarms is recommended regardless of battery condition.

Items marked with ! Require special equipment and/or qualified personnel.

**A - Each Trip or Monthly**

**B - Weekly**

**C - Every 3 Months**

**D - Every 6 Months**

**E - Each Year**

**F - At Specified Mileage or Interval**

**G - At Specified Mileage for Heavy Duty Service**

**▲ - Severe Climate and Full Time Usage**

## STORAGE CHECKLISTS

The following checklists will help you perform the steps necessary to prepare your motor home for storage. Use the checklist that applies to the storage conditions you anticipate.

These checklists do not include every detail required, and you may want to expand them to suit your needs. Contact your dealer for additional suggestions suitable to your climate and storage conditions, particularly extremes of hot and cold.

### **Short-Term Storage (Less Than 30 Days)**

1. Wash the motor home exterior and underside. Hose off accumulations of mud and road salts.
2. Thoroughly clean the interior of the motor home, including carpets, counter tops, lavvy, tub and shower, and galley.
3. Inflate tires to maximum rated cold pressure.
4. Park the motor home as level as possible front to rear and side to side. Block wheels front and rear. Put transmission in neutral and set the parking brake.
5. Check the charge in the battery. Recharge as necessary.
6. Disconnect battery cables. Refer to **Chassis Operator's Manual** for proper removal and installation sequence. Clean terminals, top and sides of batteries and battery boxes. Reinstall cables, dress with a battery terminal spray.
7. Use battery disconnect switch/es, if equipped.
8. Drain black, gray and potable water tanks.
9. Winterize, if appropriate. (See **Winterization** section in this manual.)
10. Turn off water pump and water heater switches.
11. Turn off Propane at tank valve.
12. Turn off refrigerator and furnace.
13. Turn off range and oven burner valves and pilot valves (if equipped).
14. Remove all perishables from refrigerator and galley cabinets. Block refrigerator door(s) open to reduce odor buildup. An open box or tray of baking soda in the refrigerator will help absorb odors.
15. Open closet doors, drawers, and cabinets so air can circulate.
16. In warm or hot climates, slightly open (suggested - 1/4") roof vents for ventilation. In cold climates, close and cover all vents to prevent entry of snow, etc.
17. Close and lock all windows. Be sure vent fan and range hood fan switches are off.
18. Cover exterior appliance vents (water heater, furnace, range hood, refrigerator) to prevent insects from getting in. Be sure to remove all covering material before using appliances or vents.
19. Cap or close holding tank drain, city water inlet and fresh water fill spout.
20. Turn off all radios, TVs, interior and exterior lights.
21. Close curtains and/or mini-blinds, and pull shades.
22. Disconnect and store the 120-volt power cord.
23. Cover tires with cloth, plywood, or aftermarket tire covers.
24. Prepare generator. Refer to generator operating manual included in your **Owner's Information Package**.
25. Run the engine for about 15 minutes every 30 days. Turn the vehicle air conditioner ON during this run. Check engine oil, transmission fluid and coolant levels.

## Storage

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### **Long-Term Storage (Over 30 Days)**

1. Perform all steps as required for short-term storage.
2. Run chassis engine to normal operating temperature. Operate automotive air conditioner(s) to lubricate compressor seals. Drain engine oil, replace filter, refill engine with fresh oil.
3. Remove windshield wiper blades and store inside the motor home.
4. Charge and remove both the chassis and house battery(ies). Store in a cool, dry place, and check the charge and water level every 30 days. If the specific gravity is being checked, recharge the battery when it drops to 1.220. With the advent of computer controlled engine and transmission management systems certain procedures must be followed whenever the chassis battery is disconnected or replaced. Please refer to your **Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual** for any instructions supplied by the chassis manufacturer with respect to this subject.



#### **NOTE**

*If your motor home is equipped with a solar battery charger, it will trickle charge both house and chassis batteries. The battery disconnect switch must be ON for the solar charger to charge the batteries.*

5. Remove, clean and replace roof air conditioner filter(s). Cover the air conditioner shroud(s).
6. To help preserve the tires, park each tire on a piece of plywood about 12 inches square.
7. Cover the windows on the inside with foil, cardboard, paper, etc., to reduce curtain, drape, and carpet fading.
8. Remove batteries in battery-powered devices.

9. During extended periods of storage, gasoline may deteriorate due to oxidation. This can damage rubber and other materials in the fuel system. It may also clog small orifices. Commercially available gasoline fuel stabilizers should be added whenever actual or expected storage periods exceed 60 days. Follow the additive manufacturer's instructions. Operate the vehicle regularly during the storage period to mix and circulate the anti-oxidant agent throughout the fuel system.
10. Check tire inflation pressures every 30 days. Maintain maximum rated cold inflation pressure.
11. Check the sealant around all roof, floor and body seams and windows. Reseal if necessary. See **Sealant Renewal** section.
12. Lubricate all locks and hinges as described in the **Maintenance** chapter.
13. Remove high grass or weed growth if coach is parked on dirt.

## **WINTERIZATION**

Thoughtful planning and preparation for the winter season can help eliminate equipment failures and breakdowns, and can extend the life of your motor home and its systems. Your dealer can advise you concerning specific winterization procedures and products for your climate area or the areas through which you will be traveling. Your dealer may also provide winterization service for all appliances and systems in the motor home. The following is a check list if you prefer to perform these procedures yourself:

1. Check engine coolant level and antifreeze protection. Drain and flush engine cooling system and add antifreeze per the chassis operator's manual.
2. Service and winterize the generator as outlined in the generator operating manual included in your **Owner's Information Package**.

3. Winterize the Propane system. Your Propane dealer or service station will perform this for you.
4. Winterize all appliances as outlined in the individual operator's manuals.
5. Remove snow accumulations as often as possible.

## Water System Winterizing for Units with Water Heaters

Read this section completely before performing winterization.



### CAUTION

Draining the water system alone will not provide adequate cold weather protection. If the motor home is to be unheated during below freezing temperatures, consult your dealer for the best winterizing procedure for your climate. Your dealer can winterize your motor home for you or can supply you with one of the special antifreezes which are safe and approved for use in RV water systems. Follow the instructions furnished with the antifreeze.



### WARNING

Do not use automotive or windshield washer anti-freeze in the motor home water system. These solutions may be harmful if swallowed.

1. Remove water filter cartridge, if equipped, and install the winterizing adapter.
2. Drain the fresh water tank by opening the water tank drain valve. Close valve when drained.
3. Turn water pump on (12-volt power must be on).
4. Open a cold water faucet. When the flow of water stops, turn the pump off.
5. Open water faucets, then open the drain valves on HOT and COLD water pipes. Leave these valves open.
6. Drain the water heater (if equipped) by opening the drain plug at the bottom of the heater and the safety valve at the top.
7. Flush the toilet. Operate toilet sprayer, (if equipped).
8. Drain the shower head by opening the valve. Let all water drain out the tub spout. Leave the valve open.
9. When each faucet has been drained, close all faucets, water line drain valves and the fresh water tank drain valve, install the water heater plug and close the safety valve.
10. Drain the waste water system by following the normal procedure for draining the holding tanks. (See **Plumbing** chapter).
11. Apply silicone lubrication to the knife valve actuator rod(s).
12. Be sure ALL water from ALL plumbing fixtures has been drained.
13. Close holding tank drain valves.
14. Pour approximately five gallons of approved non-toxic antifreeze into the fresh water tank.
15. Turn the water pump master switch ON.
16. Open each water faucet, run the water pump and let about a cup of antifreeze solution flow continuously through each faucet. Close each water faucet.
17. Flush the toilet until the antifreeze solution flows continuously. Release flush mechanism.
18. Your vehicle may be equipped with a water heater bypass. Winterize the hot water lines by opening each hot water faucet, allowing antifreeze solution to flow continuously, and then close each faucet. This will require considerably more antifreeze solution, and you may choose to do this step before winterizing the cold water lines so you can recycle the solution.



### NOTE

When filling the plumbing systems with antifreeze, be sure to open and operate all fixtures and valves allowing the antifreeze solution to flow freely.

## Storage

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19. Pour one cup of antifreeze solution down each drain.
  20. Install all protective caps:
    - Water tank fill
    - City water inlet cap
    - Waste tank drain outlet cap
  21. If your refrigerator is equipped with an ice maker, winterize it as follows:
    1. Shut off the water supply valve to the ice maker.
    2. Place a shallow pan under the water solenoid valve.
    3. Remove the inlet fitting to the ice maker water solenoid valve. Drain the water from the supply line.
    4. Remove the plastic nut and water line from the outlet side of the water solenoid valve. Drain water from the line.
    5. Cycle the ice maker several times while blowing compressed air through the water solenoid valve. Be sure all water is out of the solenoid. **NOTE: Your motor home dealer can do this for you.**
    6. Reconnect and tighten the lines on the solenoid valve. Leave the water supply turned off until temperatures are above 32°F/0°C.
    7. Dry out the ice maker mold assembly with a soft cloth. Place the bail arm to the **UP/OFF** position.
- water drain out completely before purging the water lines.
  2. Open all water faucets, sinks and showers,
  3. Open all low points for HOT and COLD water in the service compartment.
  4. If equipped with a Hot Water Heater, remove the drain plug located at the bottom of the water heater.
  5. Attach an air supply to the “City Fresh Water Fill” located in the Service Compartment. Regulate the air pressure from 50lbs. to a maximum of 70 lbs.
  6. After the initial water is purged from the faucets follow the next steps for purging procedures for 15 - 20 minutes.
  7. Operate the “Drink Dispenser” and the “Ice maker” on the refer until purged of water.
  8. Operate the “Insta-Hot” until purged.
  9. Operate the “Shower and Hand Sprayer” until purged.
  10. Flush each Toilets (3) times.
  11. Operate the Service Compartment Wash down sprayer until purged.
  12. Operate the Service Compartment Wash down sprayer until purged.
  13. Shut off the air pressure for (10) minutes to let residual water settle and then repeat steps 7 - 12 for an additional 10 minutes.
  14. Unplug the Insta-Hot electrical connection from the 120v. outlet.
  15. Drain out the black and the gray water tank before proceeding with adding RV Antifreeze to the drains.
  16. Remove the Hot Water Inlet line going to the Aqua-Hot system and add (1) cup of RV potable Antifreeze to the heater.
  17. Add (1) cup of RV potable antifreeze to each P-trap.
  18. Add (1) cup of RV potable antifreeze to each Toilet and flush.

### ***Fresh Water Winterization Procedure for Units with Hydronic Heating***

#### **WARNING**

Wear eye protection to protect the eyes from splash back of water!

1. Drain the water from the fresh water tank at the “fresh water” “low point” located in the service compartment. \*Note: Let the

19. Add (1) cup of RV potable antifreeze to the Washer / Dryer and cycle through the pump.
20. Remove the Water Filter Cartridge and drain the housing. Leave the housing off of the filter base.
21. After removing the inlet and the outlet lines to the water pump. Operate the water pump for (2) seconds and then remove the water pump fuse or pump connector.
22. Leave the low point drains open.

Add (1) quart of RV potable antifreeze to the Sani-con system located in the service compartment. Cycle the system until antifreeze comes out the drain line

### REACTIVATING THE MOTOR HOME AFTER STORAGE

If the motor home was properly and carefully prepared for storage, taking it out of storage will not be difficult. The following procedure check list assumes that you stored the motor home with care. If you didn't, and extensive freeze damage or other serious deterioration has occurred, please consult an authorized American Coach Dealer for advice.

1. Thoroughly inspect the outside of the vehicle. Look for animal nests in wheel wells, under the hood, in air cleaner or in other out of the way places.
2. Remove all appliance vents, ceiling vent and air conditioner coverings. Be sure all furnace, water heater, and refrigerator openings are clear and free of debris or insect nests, webs, etc.
3. Open all doors and compartments. Check for animal or insect intrusion, water damage, or other deterioration.
4. Check all chassis fluid levels — engine oil, engine coolant, power steering fluid, brake fluid, transmission fluid, rear axle oil.
5. Check charge level in batteries. Refill and recharge as necessary. Reinstall batteries if

necessary. Be sure cable ends and terminals are clean and free of corrosion. Check *Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual* for any instructions on resetting chassis computer after battery is reinstalled.

6. Check tire pressures. Inflate to specified cold pressure.
7. Remove covering from inside windows.
8. Open vents and windows for ventilation.
9. Be sure engine instruments indicate proper readings. Run engine up to operating temperature. Shut engine down. Check all fluids. Top up if necessary.
10. During engine run, check the operation of headlights, tail-lights, turn signals, backup lights, clearance lights, license plate light, emergency flashers. Operate the vehicle air conditioner. If air conditioner does not work, or unusual sounds occur, have the system checked by a qualified air conditioner technician.
11. Drain, flush, and sanitize the fresh water system as outlined in the *Plumbing* chapter.
12. Install a new water filter cartridge (if equipped).
13. Operate all faucets and fixtures in the fresh water system. Check for leaks at all joints and fittings. Repair if necessary making sure the water heater bypass is open.
14. Check operation of 12-volt circuit breakers and inspect fuses. Replace as necessary.
15. Operate all 12-volt lights and accessories.
16. Install new batteries in battery-operated devices. Check operator's manual for each device for any additional requirements.
17. Test carbon monoxide, Propane and smoke detectors/alarms.
18. Check monitor panel operation.
19. Operate vents and vent fans, including the range hood fan.
20. Inspect the 120-volt electrical system —



## Storage

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inverter, power cord, converter, all outlets, and any exposed wiring. If defects are found, refer service to an authorized American Coach Dealer.

21. Prepare the generator for operation following instructions in the generator operating manual in your ***Owner's Information Package***.
22. Start and run generator.
23. Operate 120-volt appliances and air conditioner(s). Be sure to uncover air conditioner shroud(s).
24. Inspect the Propane system and check for leaks as described in the ***Propane System*** chapter. If the Propane tank shows signs of rust or corrosion, have it inspected by a qualified Propane technician.
25. Operate each Propane appliance. Have the Propane regulator adjusted for proper pressure by a qualified technician.
26. Inspect and clean the interior.
27. Check the sealant around all roof, floor and body seams and windows. Reseal if necessary. See ***Sealant Renewal*** section.
28. Lubricate all exterior locks, hinges, and latches.
29. Reinstall windshield wiper blades or remove protective covers. Check wiper/washer operation.
30. Wash and wax the exterior. Inspect the body for scratches or other damage. Touch up or repair as necessary. Flush the underside thoroughly.
31. Run thorough operational checks of steering, brakes, engine and transmission. Operate vehicle slowly during these checks to allow sufficient circulation of fluids and reseating of components.

Your motor home should now be ready for a new traveling season. If you choose, your dealer can double check your preparation and repair any problems or make any necessary adjustments.

**AC Inverter** - An electronic device that changes 12-volt DC energy from the batteries to 120-volt 60-cycle, AC energy to operate microwave ovens, TVs, VCRs, or other appliances that require 120-volt 60-cycle power.

**Belted Seating Positions** - These are seats with seat belts. Anyone riding in the motor home must use one of these seats any time the motor home is in motion.

**Black Water Tank** - The water tank in your plumbing system that is designed to contain waste water from the toilet ONLY.

**CAUTION** - Any statement in this *Owner's Manual* that, if not followed, could result in damage to the vehicle or components.

**Chassis Operator's/Owner's Guide/Manual** - This is the operating and maintenance manual supplied by the chassis manufacturer. It is part of your *Owner's Information Package*. It contains information on operating and maintaining the engine, transmission, drivetrain and other components of the motor home chassis.

**Clearance Lights** - This switch will flash the clearance lights and is useful when signalling other large vehicles when passing or being passed.

**DC Converter** - An electronic device that changes 120-volt AC energy from the main power connection or the generator to 12-volt DC energy to operate the 12-volt interior lights or other 12-volt DC appliances or accessories.

**Designated Seating Capacity (Canadian units only)** - The number of sleeping positions designated equals the seating capacity.

**Dinghy** - A motorized vehicle, such as an automobile or truck, towed behind a motor home with all four tires on the ground.

**Doorside** - The right side of the motor home from the driver's point of view. So named because the main entry/exit door is on this side.

**Factory Weight** - The UVW at the time of shipment from the factory to the dealer.

**GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating)** - The maximum permissible loaded weight a specific axle is designed to carry.

**GCWR (Gross Combined Weight Rating)** - The value specified by the motor home manufacturer as the maximum allowable loaded weight of this motor home with its towed trailer or towed vehicle. Towing and braking capacities may be different. Refer to American Coach and the chassis manufacturer's manuals for complete information.

**Gear Preselection** - The selection of a lower gear to match the driving conditions you encounter or expect to encounter. Preselection will give you better control on slick or icy roads and on downgrades. Downshifting to lower gears increases engine braking. The selection of a lower gear often prevents cycling between a gear and the next higher gear on a series of short up-and-down grades.

**GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter)** - An electrical device attached to the bathroom AC circuits that disconnect the outlet if a problem occurs in the ground circuit.

**Gray Water Tank** - The water tank in your plumbing system that is designed to contain waste water from the sinks and shower drains ONLY. No toilet wastes go into this tank.

**GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating)** - Is the maximum permissible weight of this fully loaded motor home.

**LCCR (Load Carrying Capacity Reduction)** - The amount the OCCC is reduced due to vehicle weight added by the dealer between vehicle certification and first retail sale.

**Monitor Panel** - An electronic device that

## Glossary

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allows you to conveniently measure the approximate levels in the fresh water, gray and black water tanks. You can also check the charge in the battery/batteries.

***MGTW (Maximum Gross Towing Weight)***

- The maximum loaded weight of a trailer or towed vehicle this motor home, with equipped hitch, has been designated to tow. MGTW cannot be increased by changing the trailer hitch.

***MTW (Maximum Tongue Weight)*** - The maximum permissible downward force exerted on the hitch ball by the towed vehicle coupler.

***NOTE*** - A statement or instruction in this Owner's Manual with information to help you use the vehicle or equipment more efficiently, such as a tip.

***OCCE (Occupant and Cargo Carrying Capacity)*** - The available weight capacity for occupants and cargo however dealer options may reduce this by the LCCR.

***Owner's Information Package*** - This is a package of papers, manuals, warranty and instruction cards, and other material put together for you by American Coach. These materials contain operating and maintenance instructions for most of the components and appliances in your motor home.

***Park Cable*** - The F-style video connector that allows you to connect to an outside television signal source, such as the cable TV feed at an RV park, or any other 75-ohm video source. This connector usually carries an RF modulated signal.

***Park/City Water Connection*** - The "garden-hose" style connector that allows you to connect to an outside pressurized water source.

***Power/Shore Cord*** - This is the main power

cord coming into your motor home electrical system. You connect it to 120-volt AC power at a park or campsite.

***Roadside*** - The left side of the motor home from the driver's point of view. So named because, at least in North America, the "road" outside the vehicle is usually on this side.

***UIN (Unit Identification Number)*** - The number that identifies your motor home as an American Coach product. Use this number when ordering parts or requesting warranty service for your motor home.

***UVW (Unloaded Vehicle Weight)*** - The weight of a vehicle with maximum capacity of all fluids necessary for operation of the vehicle, but without cargo, or accessories that are ordinarily removed from the vehicle when they are not in use. UVW does not include occupants and cargo such as water in the various holding tanks.

***VIN (Vehicle Identification Number)*** - The legal, 17-digit vehicle identification number as shown on the vehicle registration certificate.

***WARNING*** - A statement or instruction in this ***Owner's Manual*** that, if not followed, could lead to personal injury or death.



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1031 U.S. 224 East, P.O. Box 31  
Decatur, Indiana 46733  
(260) 728-2121**

**SERVICE CONTACT:**

**AMERICAN COACH OWNER RELATIONS  
P.O. Box 1007  
Decatur, IN 46733  
1-800-435-7345**

**SALES CONTACT:**

**AMERICAN COACH SALES  
1031 U.S. 224 East, P.O. Box 31  
Decatur, Indiana 46733  
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## Notes

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