**DRIVING & OPERATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR A TRAVEL TRAILER**

Parking Setting Up & Using RV

Note: All utility & sewer hook ups are on the driver’s side.

Make sure if you are using sewer & utility hook ups that you line the camper up near sewer & utility hookups. You need to be within 10 feet to make sure hoses & plugs reach. Make sure you are level. Place wheel chocks under wheels if you are possibly going to roll. The slide-outs require at least 6 feet clearance so walk around camper before opening to make sure you have enough clearance.

Safe speed to drive pulling a travel trailer is 55 miles an hour during good driving conditions.

* **Backing Up**: Never back the vehicle without someone being out behind to guide and watch for obstructions.
* **Right Hand Turns**: You will need extra distance to execute a turn.
* Roof Clearance: Total minimum height could be about 15 feet, and the roof air conditioner sticks up above the roof line. Care is required when pulling in under gas stations, motel over-heads, tree branches, carport roofs, low roofs, etc.
* **Lower the roof air ducts & antenna** before moving the vehicle to avoid damage or water leakage. Remember to **raise the steps** before moving the vehicle.
* **A** travel trailer is wider, longer and heavier than an automobile. These differences do call for special driving procedures. The procedures are easy to master and make your trip that more enjoyable.
* **D**ue to the length of a travel trailer, its turning radius is greater than a smaller vehicle. Also, when driving from a flat surface up an incline or vice versa, the rear end may drag**.**
* **B**e aware that a travel trailer is buffeted by cross winds and air currents created by passing trucks which can cause fishtailing. Slow down driving speed. Anticipate these effects and compensate for them. You may want to consider using sway bars.
* **W**hen backing the vehicle use side mirrors and have someone watch outside the vehicle. In close quarters, have someone give directions from outside, while you view through a side mirror.
* **Hitch Weights** are higher on ramp trailers - Hitch weight should be between 10- 15% of your loaded weight when you're ready to hit the road. Manufacturers are on the upper end of that percentage when we build them at the factory. Why? Well, as you load your ATV's or motorcycles in the cargo area something interesting happens. The hitch weight actually goes down! Weight is transferred from the hitch to the axles. This lever effect is similar to how a teeter totter works. Our engineers have carefully considered this and other factors and determined that the weights specified here allow you the greatest flexibility in loading your trailer safely while maintaining a proper percentage of weight (not too much or too little) on the hitch.

**Mountain Driving**

Watch the ending temperature carefully. If the engine overheats, immediately pull off to the right side of the road and wait for the engine to cool. Check the engine for coolant. Use the low gear on inclines where the transmission is repeatedly upshifting and down-shifting. The proper way to descend is to put the transmission in low gear, thus avoiding the over use of the brakes. If at any time it appears that the brakes are fading, the coach should immediately be stopped and the brakes allowed to cool before proceeding.

**GRAVEL ROADS, DIRT ROADS, COUNTRY ROADS AND OFF ROAD**

Travel Trailers operate reasonably well on dirt and gravel road. However, on such roads, gravel thrown up by oncoming traffic can produce dents in the fiberglass and windshield damage. Travel trailers are not suited for traveling on really rough roads. These roads frequently wind through woods which have not been cleared sufficiently to permit the long length and weight of a travel trailer to pass without damage or pass at all. Also, due to height of a travel trailer, any unevenness in the road, especially side to side unevenness, may result in throwing about of items stored in the trailer. Driving to an off-road event such as a mud fest, may lead to no roads or they can become mud holes which can cause the trailer to be dragged through causing damage to axles & trailer body.

**HIGHWAY DRIVING**

Frequently, log lines of cars collect behind a travel trailer. When this happens, the driver should pull off the road and let traffic go by. If you do not do this particularly daring drivers will take a dangerous risk to get by and the travel trailer will be the focal point of a potential accident.

**WINDY CONDITIONS**

Travel Trailers, by their nature are high profile vehicles. They are adversely affected by windy conditions. If the wind is blowing it is better to travel at a slower rate of speed. Wind and speed make for dangerous situations. Check your area for wind advisories. If the situation is dangerous to drive in – wait to travel or pull off the road and wait for the wind to subside.

**FREEZING WATER**

When the temperature drops driving conditions change. In addition to watching for icy roads (including hard to see black ice), cold weather may cause freezing of the vehicle. If the temperature drops below freezing, check the manuals for specific actions to take to prevent damage to the travel trailer systems. If you have any questions please call owner or a rv dealer.

**Travel Trailer Vehicle Safety Basic Requirements**

Shut off furnace, water heater, refrigerator, stove and generator as well as any other open flame object, while refueling gasoline, diesel, or propane.

No person or pet should be in travel trailer while it is moving.

Lock all doors while trailer is traveling.

Exhaust ports for furnace and water heater are extremely hot when in use.

Emergency window exits are not to be opened except for an emergency. Danger of falling form the window exists when window is open.

Roof Tops are dangerous at all times and should not be accessed unless an emergency and most be used with extreme caution and warn all traveling including children.

Showers and Tubs are slippery when wet.

Open stairs and other objects are a potential hazard especially during darkness. Please make everyone aware of their location and use lighting if available.

Awnings are a hazard for hand/finger injury & per insurance company should not be used due to weather hazards.

Discontinue travel during high wind or bad weather conditions.

**Emergency Services for rv (If you purchased from flyer provided which we require if you do not have it) – RentSafe RV Roadside Assistance purchase at**  [http://www.mbaroadside.com](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ft.e2ma.net%2Fclick%2F8a84xf%2Fgl9yc%2Fkwgbpkb&data=04%7C01%7C%7C8d05649503664645ed0b08d91f9bc32f%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C637575576110289006%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=y40cky4zZtvKIGRd0pVm10SbiCpIUG69qlrPTk2NVKc%3D&reserved=0).

***The Following Are Covered Emergencies (fees apply click on link for coverage breakdown)*** [***https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20210510/98/51/f2/5b/210b22943e9b4eb9f70a0e62/MBA\_RentSafe\_Brochure.pdf***](https://d31hzlhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20210510/98/51/f2/5b/210b22943e9b4eb9f70a0e62/MBA_RentSafe_Brochure.pdf)

*Roadside Assistance*

*Towing*

*Tire Assistance*

*Delivery of Fuel and Emergency Fluids*

*RV Mobile Mechanic*

*Dealer Locator Assistance*

1. WATER HEATER:

RV water heaters are small compared to home water heaters. You have about 6 gallons of hot water, once used up it takes about 30 minutes to recover. Your showerhead has been equipped with a shut-off to help conserve water when showering.

2. REFRIGERATOR:

Unit will automatically select cooling method and temperature setting. Avoid holding doors open and adding a lot of warm food at one time for trailer refrigerators are slower to recover than your home units.

3. PROPANE:

If you suspect a problem with the propane, you should contact either the dealer you are renting from or a professional.

4. SEWER:

•You will be responsible for emptying the sewer & holding tanks on your rental trailer.

•When flushing the toilet look down opening. If you see water close to the bottom of the tube that connects the toilet to the tank, it is time to dump the Black Water Tank.

•On the outside of the trailer, opposite the side of entry and toward the rear, you will find the sewer. Emptying handles are just beneath the side of the trailer.

•For Gray Water, you will find either one or two smaller handles. These should be in the open position at all times.

•For Black Water, first connect dump hose, you will find a larger handle that should remain closed until the tank is ready for dumping. Pull the handle open to empty the Black Water until you can no longer hear movement of liquid.

•Make sure the Black Water handle is returned to the CLOSED position!

•Now, you should add 1 packet of chemical and 2 fresh bowls of water.

5.FURNACE:

•Turn furnace on by switch at the thermostat.

•Set temperature to desired setting.

•It takes about 30 seconds for the furnace to activate.

•If cold air is blowing after 1 or 2 minutes, turn thermostat off and wait for the fan to stop. Turn furnace back on, this may have to be done up to 10 times if propane has just been filled.

6.TOILET:

DO NOT PLACE ANYTHING BUT RV TOILET PAPER IN THE TOILET. USE TRASH CAN TO DISPOSE OF ALL OTHER WASTE!

•RV toilet paper dissolves and will not clog pipes.

•Pull inner white handle and fill bowl with water. Pull gray handle forward to flush

7.PROPANE LEAK DETECTOR:

•Most propane detectors are mounted floor level, either by the front entry way or by the dinette.

•Leak detectors can be set off by a number of aerosol-based products. Examples are hairspray, aftershave, deodorant, etc.

•If the leak detector has been activated, evacuate the trailer & contact the rental agent or a propane professional.

8.STOVE / OVEN:

•The stove burners need to be lit with a lighter.

•To light the oven:

1. Turn the oven knob to “LITE” and light pilot with the lighter.

2. The pilot is under the oven pan.

3. Once the pilot is lit, turn the knob to desired temperature.

•Be sure the pilot is off when finished using.

9.SHOWER:

•When showering, make sure the shower curtain is inside the tub base. This will keep water from running onto the floor.

•The water heater contains approximately 6 gallons of hot water, enough for 1 conservative shower.

•It is advised that you wait 20 minutes between showers to ensure that there is enough hot water. The top of the showerhead has a water saver on/off control that can be used to conserve hot water.

10.CABLE:

•The cable jacks in the trailer are ready to use. Be sure light on jack is off.

•Make sure if trailer has antenna that before leaving the campsite it is place back in the down position for travel.

11.AIR CONDITIONER:

Be sure windows, vents and doors are closed when running the air conditioner. Do not set temperature too cold (below 70). If above instructions are not followed, unit may freeze & no cooling will be available at all.

12.EMERGENCY EXITS:

•In case of emergency, all trailers are equipped with emergency exits.

•Make sure once you are at your destination and have the trailer set up, locate these exits.