

Get Your Phil Friday

Tips 1-40

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TIP #1

Windows getting you cranky?



Struggling to open and close your crank out awning windows? Try this: lubricating the tracks can extend the life of the gear mechanism saving you time, money and stress. This will keep it moving freely with less effort at a moment's notice when air flow is needed. Depending on how often you open up your windows, when you service them, be sure to wipe out the tracks with a cloth to remove dirt and oil build up. A spray silicone sealant or even some white lithium automotive grease is the easiest way to maintain the tracks that the arms lock into.



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TIP #2

Refreshing your Fresh Water Tank...



Just added fresh water to your tank and it looks like and smells like it came out of the lake? Maybe its time for a refresh. Some RV owners may never have to do a refresh and some might need to do them routinely. Everyone is different. It depends on the water you are putting in your tank and how long it has been stored. If you feel you need a refresh then the following tip is for you:

To refresh your fresh water tank add 1/3 cup of bleach to 2/3 tank of water. Drive your vehicle around allowing the water/bleach solution to slosh around the tank. Drain the solution from your water tank using the fresh water tank drain spigot. Fill and flush your water tank with clean water (you may have to do this several times) to eliminate the bleach from the system.

Check and clean the water filter on the inlet side of your water pump.

Happy RV'ing!



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TIP #3

Maintaining Your Water Heater...



It is suggested that you check and replace your Anode rod on a regular bases. The anode rod is used to protect your water heater, and is commonly referred to as the sacrificial rod. The way it works is, the metal on the anode rod and the metal in the water heater tank are connected together through the water (electrolysis), the metal on the anode rod allows itself to be eaten away to preserve the steel of the water heater tank. The rate at which the anode rod is eaten away depends on the mineral content of the water and the amount of water flowing through the water heater.

To remove the anode rod from the water heater you will need a 1 1/16" socket. Removing the anode rod is also the method used to drain your water tank, when needed.



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TIP #4

Get Charged!

Your Pleasure-Way is equipped with one chassis battery and one or two coach batteries. The chassis battery is only charged when the vehicle is running; it is charged through the alternator.

The coach batteries are charged:

- 1) When the engine is running charging happens through the alternator.
- 2) When you are plugged in to shore power charging happens through the converter.
- 3) When running your generator charging happens through the converter.

(Note: The red disconnect switch must be in the on position for the charging system to work through the converter.)



The best way to charge your coach battery is through your converter. The converter without the Charge Wizard (models pre 2006), charges at a trickle charge rate of approx. 2-10 amps. The converter with the Charge Wizard will boost charge and then regulate down to a trickle charge. This will put a very deep charge into your coach battery giving you the maximum amp hours.

Your alternator will charge your battery at a more rapid rate, however at a more rapid rate you will not get as many amp hours of use out of your battery before it needs to be recharged.

If your coach battery does not charge from your alternator or from you converter check your manual reset breakers.





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TIP #5

No Pressure...

Low pressure at your Taps or Toilet:

Taps:

In most cases this is due to mineral build up in the screen of the individual Tap. Unscrew the Spigot-screen from the individual tap and clean the screen and water dispenser. Once you have clean the screen reinstall the screen and dispenser.



For your toilet:

- Remove the blue water line from the inlet on the toilet. (Release water pressure before removing this line.)
- Open the water valve on the toilet by pressing down the foot flush or pulling forward the hand flush top the point that water would run into the bowl.
- Using compressed air blow back through the water valve. (You may notice mineral deposits coming out of the waterline connection.)
- Reconnect the water line and check water flow.





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TIP #6

A Leaky Connection?

A drip coming from your city water connection when you are using the onboard water pump (this will happen on occasion). To rectify the problem and to have the city water connection reseal there are several solutions.

- Reconnect to city water and apply water pressure then remove you city water connection and see if the drip is eliminated.
- Remove the screen from the city water inlet, depress the center white valve stem, allow a small amount of water to exit the city water connection, release center white valve stem allowing the valve-city water connection to reseal.



Be sure to reinstall your screen with the rubber seal once this procedure is complete. Without the screen seal your city water hose will leak when connected.



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TIP #7

12v or DC Power Trouble?

There are two sources of 12volt or DC power in your Motorhome. One is your auxiliary battery and second is your DC converter. The converter will only function when your Motorhome is plugged into an appropriate power source or when the generator is engaged.

Note: In the Motorhome portion of the vehicle all White 12 volt or DC wires or wires taped off with white electrical tape are the ground or negative wires. All other colored wires are positive wires. This is in accordance with the RV industry standard and code.

Auxiliary Battery Source:

Step 1 – Ensure the Red Key disconnect is in the on position. The key can not be removed when the switch is in the on position.
(The disconnect became standard in 1998)
(locations may vary)



Step 2 – Ensure your auxiliary battery has charge, and is connected correctly.
(White wires or wires taped off with white electrical tape are negative wires.)
Note: If your vehicle is not equipped with a generator and is generator ready there may be a wire taped off in the battery compartment. This will be the generator wire.



Step 3 – Check the individual fuses for the equipment that is not functioning.

Step 4 – Check the manual reset 12 volt or DC breakers. Reset can be found at the copper post end, it is a small black button. There is one for the Converter, fridge, power sofa and air compressor if so equipped.





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TIP #8

Leaky Roof Window?

Over time your upper roof windows may get a leak between the glass and the black aluminum frame. The glass is held into the aluminum frame by windshield urethane. The repair procedures are as follows. The repair is from the exterior of the vehicle. There is no need to remove the window from the fiber glass roof.

- 1) Remove the rubber seal from around the window. You can use a flat blade screw driver to start the removal process. Pry the rubber away from the metal frame allowing the rubber to remain flat against the glass. Pull the remainder of the rubber seal free from around the window. (You will install this rubber seal back into the track)



On some windows you may find a metal clip on each side. Once you have removed the rubber seal, use a flat blade screw driver in the inner track, pry the metal clip towards the glass and remove the metal clip.



- 2) With the rubber removed clean the track where the rubber was installed, clean the area next to the glass and the edge of the glass. With the window and track clean give the area a final wipe down with rubbing alcohol to remove all remaining oils.
- 3) Using a windshield urethane place a bead against the glass and aluminum window frame. (some urethane will require a primer to be painted onto the metal before applying the urethane.) (See above)
- 4) After applying the urethane immediately clean and install the rubber seal and metal clips into the track. (The best method for doing this is to use the rubber handle end of the screw driver to press both the metal clip and rubber molding back into place.



Allow the urethane to dry for 12 hours before testing the upper roof window.



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TIP #9

Dirty wall fabric?

Wall Fabric cleaning

Pleasure-Way has used the Sea Stone type fabric in the vehicles since the 1988. This fabric has been durable and is also stain treated for easy cleaning.

Cleaning procedures for the Sea stone fabric.

- 1) In a spray bottle mix 3 or 4 drops of dish soap with a cup of warm water.



- 2) Spray the stained area with the soap solution.
(fabric should appear damp)
- 3) Lightly brush the stained area with a soft brush.
(It works best to brush with the grain of the fabric)



- 4) Blot the area with a clean white cloth to absorb any excess water.
- 5) Using a fan allow the area to air dry.

For darker stains you may have to repeat this procedure.

For more severe stains you may have to use carpet and upholstery cleaning tool such as the Little Green Machine.





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TIP #10

It's a snap!

Repairing Drapery Snaps

Pleasure-Way uses Shapco snap tape on the curtains. The Shapco snap tape is a vinyl strip with the snaps set into the vinyl strip. The vinyl strip is sewn onto the curtain. On occasion a snap will pull out of the vinyl strip.



- 1) Remove the snap from the plastic slide.



- 2) Spread the snap from the rear retainer.
- 3) Reinsert the snap into the vinyl strip.



- 4) Use a gel type super glue such as a Loctite 454, run a small bead of glue around the outside of the snap allowing it to go between the vinyl strip and metal snap. Run an additional bead on the underside of the snap. Press the snap and vinyl strip together.
- 5) Allow the super glue to set up and dry before inserting the snap into the curtain slide.

Take precautions such as tape or another form of covering to prevent the super glue from coming in contact with the cloth material.



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TIP #11

Understanding the Water Heater Bypass system..

Each Spring calls come in to Pleasure-Way from owners and service departments asking, how the water heater valves should be set for summer use.

Pleasure-Way uses a three valve system, each valve has an oblong shaped handle. The valve is open when the longest points of the handle align with the water line. The valve is closed when the longest points of the handle make a T with the water line.

To use the water heater the valve at the top of the water heater must be in an open position, the valve at the bottom of the water heater must be in an open position, and the valve between the two water lines must be in the closed position.

Winter Position/ Bypass position



Summer Position / working water heater



The most common mistake is failure to close the center bypass valve. If the bypass valve is left in an open position you will have warm water at your water tap, as the hot water from the water heater mixes with the cold water from the bypass line.





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TIP #12

Water in the exterior storage?

If you are getting more water than just humidity in your exterior storage compartments check your door seal.

STORAGE BOX DOOR SEAL

- 1) Open the storage door.
- 2) Using yellow chalk color the bulb seal on the storage opening.



- 3) Close the storage door. The door will make contact with the yellow chalk leaving an outline on the back of the door. Areas with no chalk transfer would indicate a possibility of a leak. In most cases this will be at the top of the door just under the hinge.



- 4) Place a 1" wide by 1/8" thick neoprene foam tape 1/4" down from the top edge of the door where it curves down on the edges. (The tape is placed on the back side of the door).



Two other areas to check for leaks:

- 1) Check the machine screws around the opening to ensure they are sealed.
 - A) Back out the machine screws enough to add a bead of clear silicone underneath the head of the screw.
 - B) Tighten the machine screws and clean off excess silicone.
- 2) Check to see that the bulb seal is secure to the pinch molding. Check for cracking or splits between the bulb seal and the pinch molding.



Use 3M Weather Strip Adhesive #80119 to seal and attach the bulb seal



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TIP #13

Power Sofa Lubrication:

To maintain your power sofa it is recommended that you lubricate the sofa periodically. The products I would recommend are Silicone spray, LPS 1 dry lubricant and 3M 5-Way Plus Lubricant.



Before you get started place a cardboard cover on the floor and behind the screw gear mechanism on the power sofa. Ensure you do not move the sofa during this procedure. (All screw gears, drive housing and cables are under the seat portion of the power sofa)

- 1) Remove the 1/4" nut on the cable connected to the drive housing of your power sofa. (wrench size may vary from year to year)



- 2) Remove the cable from the drive housing, ensure the center braided drive line is pressed all the way into the motor side of the cable.
- 3) Spray the screw gears with Silicone spray or LPS 1.



- 4) Lubricate the drive housing in the cable opening with LPS 1 or Silicone spray.
- 5) Lubricate the center drive line in the cable with 3M 5-Way Plus. Lift the cable so that the lubricant can run down towards the sofa motor.
- 6) Place the cable back into the drive housing and tighten the 1/4" cable nut.
- 7) Run your sofa back and forth or up and down several times to work in the lubricants.

If your power sofa fails you can move your power sofa manually.

- A) Remove the 1/4" nut and cable from the drive housing on both sides of the sofa. [step 1 & 2 above]
- B) Insert a #2 or red handled Robertson screw driver into the drive housing turning the gear mechanism on the screw drive. You may also be able to turn the screw mechanism by using a wrench on the lock nut at the end of the screw gear.

- C) Before reconnecting your cables, ensure that the power sofa is even on both sides. This is most easily done with the sofa in the full upright or flat position.





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TIP #14

Bulbs keeping you in the dark?

Changing Bulbs:

Pleasure-Way has used a wide variety of lights throughout the years so I have chosen the most asked about lights and the way to change the light bulbs. For those of you with the factory installed LED lights the whole fixture is replaced, not just the bulb.

High Mount Brake Light Ford Excel

To replace the bulbs in the high mount brake light,

1) Pry the red lens out. You will notice that there are drain holes in the lens near each end. Lift the lens out giving you access to the bulbs.



2) On the silver post inside the light using a small screwdriver pry the U wire away from the silver post and over the retainer ridge. Replace the bulb.



3) Run a small bead of clear silicone around the lens opening and reinsert the red lens.

Ceiling Pot Light

1) Using a small Flat blade screw driver, pry the inner ring away from the outer ring.

2) Remove the inner ring and the lens.

3) Pull the 12 volt 10 watt bulb sideways out of the socket.

4) Replace the bulb and reinsert the inner ring with the lens.



Console or Reading Light

(These may be a single or double light.)

1) Pry the plastic cover away from the light.

2) At the narrow end of the oval lens press the release tab for the lens and swing it down.

3) Pull the light bulb sideways to remove the bulb. Install a new bulb.

4) Close the lens and snap it into place. Snap the black trim ring around the light fixture.





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TIP #15

Choosing the right battery.

Choosing the right replacement Auxillary battery for your Pleasure-Way

Your Auxillary battery or coach battery is traditionally a deep cycle battery or in the case of the Sprinter chassis a multi-purpose battery. These batteries are rated not by the cranking amps but by the amp hour rating.

Here are some of the traditional batteries used by Pleasure-Way:

Interstate SRM 24
Size 11" long 6 7/8" wide and 9 1/2" high
16.4 hour with a 5 amp draw.

Interstate SRM 27
Size 12 3/4" long 6 3/4" high and 9 1/2" high
17 hour with a 5 amp draw.

Interstate DCS 75
Size 10 3/4" long 6 5/8" wide and 8 5/8" high
75 amp hour rating

Mercedes Benz Multi- Purpose current part # A000 982 91 08
Size 13 3/4" long 7" wide and 7 1/4" high
95 AH rating.

Two things you should consider in your battery replacement.

- 1) Amp Hour rating (the higher amp hours the better)
- 2) Size and location. In most cases the battery box , compartment or battery tray is set up for a specific battery size, it will not accommodate a larger battery.



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TIP #16

Replacing your drain spigot

Replacing your fresh water plastic Drain Spigot:

Pleasure-Way uses a plastic drain spigot on the fresh water tank. Over time these spigots may break or deteriorate. Here are some ideas for replacing the drain spigot.

- 1) You can replace the drain spigot with the original spigot, this spigot is threaded into the tank with a 1/2" MPT threaded fitting. To remove the spigot screw the spigot counter clockwise. When replacing the spigot use Teflon tapes on the threads before reinstalling the new fitting. This spigot should be available at a local RV parts center.



For those of you who are a little more adventurous:

- 2) Remove the plastic drain spigot. Acquire brass 1/2" MPT threaded water tap from your local hardware or plumbing store. Use Teflon tape on the 1/2" threaded portion of the tap going into the tank. Thread the tap into the tank.



This option will allow you to attach a garden hose onto the spigot to allow you to drain the tank away from your vehicle.

For those of you who are most adventurous:

- 3) Remove the plastic drain spigot. Acquire a brass Shark Bite 1/2" X 1/2" MNPT PEX connector, either a straight or a 90 degree angle depending on drain spigot location or routing track for the drain line. Thread the shark Bite fitting into the tank. Ensure that you use Teflon tape on the threaded portion of the fitting. Measure the distance from the shark bite end to the chosen spot for the drain spigot at the side or back of the vehicle. Cut and insert a PEX water line cut to your measurement into the Shark Bite fitting. Secure the PEX line away from all heat sources and other components that could damage this line. Insert the Shark Bite drain spigot onto the end of the PEX water line. Support the drain spigot with a clamp or wire tie.





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TIP #17

Know Your Generator

Pleasure-Way has used the Onan 2.8 Microlite generator in all gas powered vehicles and the Onan 2.5 LP Microlite generator in all diesel powered vehicles. The Pursuit featured the Onan 4.0 KW generator. For the gas powered generators a line is run directly off the vehicle fuel tank. The gas powered generators are regulated to shut down when there was approximately 1/4 tank of fuel left in your fuel tank. This way you will never be left stranded.

One of the features of your generator is the low oil cut off. If the generator oil is below the sensor in the oil pan it will not allow the generator to start or if it starts it will only run for a short time and then shut down. The oil in your generator should be up near the full mark. To check your oil remove the black or red oil dipstick; wipe it clean, place it back in the hole but DO NOT thread it in, pull it out to check the oil level. In most cases the oil is a SAE 30 (refer to your Onan manual for the oil for your weather conditions.)

Older 2.8 Micro lite



Newer 2.8 Micro lite



**For the LP generator on the Diesel powered vehicles ensure that your LP switch is in the on position.*

If you push your stop start switch inside your vehicle and you do not hear the generator starter trying to start your generator there are several items to check:

- 1) Ensure your Disconnect is in the on position. Ensure you have voltage in your Auxiliary battery. (If this battery is low you can start the vehicle, this will give you additional cranking amperage for your generator.)
- 2) Check the 5 amp fuse (older Micro Lite) located inside the generator next to the stop/start button.
- 3) For the newer Micro Lite generator check the manual reset breaker located in the breaker compartment next to the disconnect switch, or behind in the ottoman bench.



If your generator has started but is not generating power ensure the breaker inside the generator is not tripped.

Older Micro Lite



Newer Micro Lite



When using your generator it is a balance of power. Do not run your AC unit and Microwave/ convection oven at the same time.

Please refer to your Onan Generator operation manual for further instructions.



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TIP #18

Table leg issues..

OH NO! My table leg Cap stuck in the floor base..



For those of you with the Sure Fit table legs this may happen on occasion. This repair procedure is as follows: You do not have to remove the cap from the table base.

- 1) Clean the cap and cap area of debris such as carpet fibers etc.
- 2) Apply a bead of a gel type super glue or gel type instant glue $\frac{1}{8}$ " down from the top of the cap, and one at the bottom of the cap. My preference is a Loctite instant adhesive.



- 3) Insert the table pole and allow the glue to set up. In most cases this will take about 10 – 15 minutes. Twist the table pole as you pull it out of the base.



- 4) With the table pole and cap removed Clean the opening of the table base. Cut away any carpet fibers that may have been matted down into the base. Lubricate the base and the table pole cap with a dry lube such as a silicone spray.





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TIP #19

Pleasure-Way Motorhome Alignment

Alignment for a Pleasure-Way Motor Home:

Lubrication of the front end of the vehicle is essential to proper steering. In some cases grease plugs are installed, they can be removed and grease fittings can be installed.

- Chevrolet/GMC 3500 - Alignment set according to the Vehicle Manufacturer's recommendations.
- Dodge/Mercedes Sprinter - Alignment set according to the vehicle Manufacturer's recommendations.
- Dodge B3500 - All Years

	Driver Side	Passenger Side	Cross Total
Caster	+3 - +4	+3 - +4	
Camber	0 - +1/4	0 - +1/8	
Toe	+1/16	+1/16	1/8 - 3/16

- Ford E150 & E250 - Alignment set according to the vehicle manufacturer's Recommendations.
- Ford E350 - All Years
- .5 caster split is essential

	Driver Side	Passenger Side	Cross/Split
Camber	0.5	0.5	0.0
Caster	3.1	3.6	-0.5
Toe	0.03	0.03	0.06

Tire pressures are very important for steering and handling. Check your Driver door pillar for OEM recommended pressure.

Rear air ride pressure is very important for steering and handling. Recommended pressure is 50 - 65 psi however this will vary with how the vehicle is loaded. Keep the vehicle riding as level as possible.



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TIP #20

Pleasure-Way Exterior Paint Codes

Exterior Paint Codes for a Pleasure-Way Motor Home:
(Due to legal restrictions touch up paint cannot be shipped.)

GM Factory Paint Codes Match Body (Almost Always)

Factory Color	Ford	Dodge/Mercedes	Chevrolet/GMC
Bright White	YZ (03-15)	(94-03) PW6 (03-08 Dodge) D5 (09-15 Mercedes) 9147	U8624/50
Grey White (Cream)		(11-15 Mercedes) 9136	
Silver	YN (06-09) UX (10-15)	(06-08 Dodge) D3 (09-11 Mercedes) 9744	(06-09) U8626 (10-14) U726S/GGZ
Gold	G3 (07-15)	W1 (2000 Limited) (STONE WHITE)	(07-09) U1329 (10-15) U929L/15
Dark Grey			(09-15) U213M

Source: Bob's RV World - CamperWorld.com

Main Body Color	Running Board and Lower Skirting Color		
2000 Dodge Millennium W1 Paint Code	Special Addition	Gold- DBU 5360	Silver- DBU5451
2004	Blue - DBC 18486	Jade - DBC 3336	Sand - DBC 4809
2005 - 2006	Blue - DBC 5110	Sage - DBC 3761	Sand Formula (2005-2011)
2007-2011 White Body	Silver - DBC 903523	Taupe - DBC 61506	DMD1690 - 3940.3 DMD1681 - 3368.8 DMD1610 - 3516.8 DMD1697 - 3565.9 DMD1683 - 3615.0 DMD1684 - 3628.1
2007-2011 Gold Body	Mineral Grey - DBC 5706		
2006-2011 Silver Body	DK Grey - DBC 23905		

*Please note for the Sand Formula (2005-2011) this is a mixing formula all parts are needed to make the custom color. This is not a paint code.

(1994 Dodge gold, teal, & rose - 1994 Skirting paint (FFC Form))

1994	Blue - DBU4445	Green - DBU4567	Rose - DBU3907	Grey - DBU3843
95-96	Blue - DBU4445	Teal - DBU 4204	Berry Formula - DMD670 - 62, PRL96- 85, PRL97 - 109, DMD646 - 168, DMD656 - 229, PRL95 - 312, DMD647 - 519, DBX695 - 1038	
1997	Blue Formula DMD624 - 29.8, DMD673 - 84.9, DMD664 - 199.9, PRL98 - 504.4, DBX695 - 1033.4	Teal Formula - DMD664 - 22.2, DN820 - 52.8, DMD662 - 227.2, DMD641 - 239.6, DMD660 - 488.2, PRL95 - 542.2, PRL91 - 598.2, DBX695 - 1078.8	Rose Formula - DMD670 - 26.2, DMD673 - 114.6, DMD646 - 127.2, DMD651 - 369, DMD629 - 607.4, DBX695 - 1039	

*Note when it is a formula this is a mixing formula not a paint code!



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TIP #21

Adjusting Ford Exel Cabled Gate Valves

For those of you with the older Ford Excels where the gate valves are on the cable system.

ADJUSTING FORD EXEL CABLED GATE VALVES

- 1) Pull the T handle open and closed four times.
- 2) Loosen the allen screw on the gate valve assembly were the cable goes into the silver plunger.
- 3) Push the silver plunger fully closed.
- 4) Pull the T handle out 1/2" from were it was fully closed.
- 5) Tighten the allen screw on the gate Valve assembly silver plunger.
- 6) Pull the T handle open and slide it fully closed, leaving pressure on the T handle for about five seconds to allow the gate portion of the valve to slide past the rubber seal inside the gate valve.

NOTE* The gate valves and cables should be lubricate yearly.



REPLACING THE BLACK WATER GATE VALVE TO A ROD SYSTEM

- 1) Remove the cable from the gate valve.
- 2) Unscrew the silver cable holder from the gate valve rod, (cable holder is threaded onto the rod.)



- 3) Drill out the plastic for the cable opening on the gate valve with a 1/4" OR 7/16" Drill bit.



- 4) Insert a 1' length of 1/4" brass rod threaded at each end, using a hex coupler nut to join the brass rod to the gate valve rod.
- 5) Install a rod support bracket to the lower side of the fiber glass skirting, next to the termination cap. Use a 1/4" X 1/2" bolt with a locking nut and Washer to secure the bracket to the lower fiber glass skirt.
- 6) Install a black T handle



PARTS:

- 1 - 1/4" brass rod 1 foot length threaded at each end
- 1 - coupler nut
- 1 - black gate valve handle
- 1 - L bracket made of medium gage steel or galvanised material
- 1 - 1/4" X 1/2" bolt with a lock nut and washer

The grey water valve will remain on the cable system.



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TIP #22

What screw drivers do I need?

Suggested screw drivers to carry in your Pleasure-Way:

I am often asked what type of screws do you use on a Pleasure-Way we have never seen the square head screws. The type of screws that Pleasure-Way uses are Robertson it is a Canadian screw. There are four basic sizes of screws with four different head sizes for the screw driver.

#0 Robertson Yellow handle screw driver used for #4 or smaller screws

#1 Robertson Green handle screw driver used for #5 and #6 screws

#2 Robertson Red Handle screw driver used for #8 and #10 screws

#3 Robertson Black Handle used for some # 10 and larger screws.



You may also want to carry your standard Phillips and Flat blade screw drivers.



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TIP #23

Winterizing your coach?

Winter Syphon Line

From what I am hearing winter is just around the corner. The projected temperature next Wednesday, September 10, at Pleasure-Way is forecast to be 0 degrees C or 32 degrees F. So it is time to get ready to winterize your coach.

I prefer to use a syphon line to run antifreeze into the coach. When using a syphon line you will only use about 1.5 gallons of RV non-toxic anti-freeze.

The syphon line is made up of 36" or 3' of 1/2" clear plastic tube, a small gear clamp and a 90 degree 1/2" barb X 1/2" FPT fitting. These products should be available at your local RV dealer or Home Depot store.



Insert the barb from the fitting into the clear plastic hose. Slide the gear clamp over the barb and clear plastic hose then tighten the gear clamp.

To use the syphon hose

- (1) Remove the clear plastic line attached to the inlet side of your water pump.
- (2) Attach the syphon hose to the inlet side of the water pump.
- (3) Insert the open end of the syphon hose into your container of RV non-toxic anti-freeze.

**Before turning on the water pump ensure the water heater valves are turned to the winter bypass position.*

- (4) Turn on your water pump and allow the anti-freeze to flow to all tap, toilet, and shower outlets.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



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TIP #24

Battery charge?

Reading the Battery Charge Rate

I have had a number of questions and statements about reading the monitor panel for the battery charge on the KIB micro monitor.

- 1) To read the Water Tanks you will look on the left hand column. The readings are F, 2/3, 1/3 and E.



- 2) To read the Battery you must look at the right hand column. The readings for the battery are C - Charge, G - Good, F - Fair, L - Low.

The Battery level will only be at the C level when the vehicle is running or when the vehicle is plugged in with the disconnect switch in the on position. The battery level in most cases will drop to the G level within 5 to 10 minutes of unplugging from shore power or turning off your vehicle.



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TIP #25

Cool Cat Air Conditioner Filter Dirty?

Cool Cat Air Conditioner Filter

- 1) Remove the stick on caps from the four corners of the maple cover



- 2) Remove the screws from under the stick on caps



- 3) Remove the maple cover from around the AC unit
- 4) Slide the filter out of the left hand end of the Cool Cat cover
- 5) Wash the cover and replace it into the original track.
- 6) Replace the maple cover around the AC plastic face. Reinstall the screws and put the stick on caps back over the screw heads

**Note* In some cases it is easier to remove the plastic face to access the AC filter. This is done by unscrewing the plastic face from the cabinet the plastic face.*



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TIP #26

Winter Syphon Line

Winter Syphon Line

From what I am hearing winter is just around the corner. The projected temperature next Wednesday September 10 at Pleasure-Way is forecast to be 0 degrees C or 32 degrees F. So it is time to get ready to winterize your coach.

I prefer to use a syphon line to run antifreeze into the coach. When using a syphon line you will only use about 1.5 gallons of RV non-toxic anti-freeze.

The syphon line is made up of 36" or 3' of $\frac{1}{2}$ " clear plastic tube, a small gear clamp and a 90 degree $\frac{1}{2}$ " barb X $\frac{1}{2}$ " FPT fitting. These products should be available at your local RV dealer or Home Depot store.



Insert the barb from the fitting into the clear plastic hose. Slide the gear clamp over the barb and clear plastic hose then tighten the gear clamp.

To use the syphon hose

- (1) Remove the clear plastic line attached to the inlet side of your water pump.
- (2) Attach the syphon hose to the inlet side of the water pump.
- (3) Insert the open end of the syphon hose into your container of RV non-toxic anti-freeze.
**Before turning on the water pump ensure the water heater valves are turn to the winter bypass position.*
- (4) Turn on your water pump and allow the anti-freeze to flow to all tap, toilet, and shower outlets.





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TIP #27

Heater Won't Ignite ?

My red key disconnect is on, my propane is on, I have power inside the coach and the water heater switch is on, but my water heater will not ignite.

Check:

- 1) The Reset button on the water heater. You will find this reset inside the water heater vent door on the outside of the vehicle.



- 2) Check the water pump/water heater fuse in the fuse panel.



- 3) Check the igniter wire attached to the control box to ensure the spade connection is attached. (The control box will be located inside the vehicle close to the water heater).



- 4) Check the burner tube for debris.





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TIP #28

Filling The LP tank.

Over the last few weeks a lot of questions on the filling of the LP tank (Propane tank) and how will I know if the tank is filled to 80 % as it says in the manual and on the warning labels.

To fill your LP tank you remove the (1) Yellow propane fill cap and open up the (2) breather valve



1)



(2)

When filling the LP Tank , fluid will appear at the breather valve once you have reached 80%. Stop filling the LP tank at this point. *** DO NOT CONTINUE TO FILL THE LP TANK***



Pleasure-Way industries uses are an ASME certified LP tank provided by Manchester Tank <http://www.mantank.com/> Please visit Manchester's web sight for information on the tank.

If the tank has been over filled the tank may off gas when the tank warms up and the LP gas expands.

The tank gage situated on the tank and the tank gage inside the vehicle will read full at 80% capacity.



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TIP #29

Antifreeze or.....?

A number of people have asked if there is an alternative to putting RV antifreeze through your vehicle to winterize your vehicle. The answer is yes, you can blow out the system, however the best method to ensure your vehicle is fully winterized is the antifreeze method. You still will have to pour ½ cup of antifreeze down each drain to fill you P-trap (do not forget the shower drain).



- 1) Drain the fresh water tank through the drain spigot, located on the fresh water tank under the vehicle. (refer to your owner's manual)
- 2) Open the low point drain valves located above the fresh water drain spigot on the fresh water tank or in some cases above the sewer dump connection.
- 3) Open all hot and cold water taps, (including kitchen, bathroom, exterior shower, and toilet flush valve). Leave these in an open position for winter.
- 4) Drain black and grey water tanks, using the T handles located on the driver side next to your sewer hose connection. This should be done at an RV dump station.
- 5) Drain the water heater by removing the 1 1/16" nut/ anode rod. Turn the water heater valves to bypass mode. (upper and lower valves closed and center valve open)
- 6) Blow compressed air through the water lines using the city water connection. Only use pressure up to 40 PSI so that it will not damage your toilet valve or tap valves.



Fittings for blowing out the water lines can be purchased at your local RV store or at a local hardware supply store such as Home Depot. The fittings can be metal or plastic.
"This is an alternative to running non-toxic antifreeze through the system. Pleasure-Way Industries cannot be held responsible for failure to ensure all water is out of the plumbing system."

- 7) Pour ½ cup of non-toxic RV antifreeze down each sink and shower drain.



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TIP #30

Winterizing your Class B RV

- 1) Drain your fresh water tank. The fresh water drain spigot will be located on the fresh water tank.



- 2) Drain your hot water tank. This is done by removing the Anode rod at the bottom of the water heater tank on the outside of the vehicle. The Anode rod is a 1 1/16" nut. Loosely reinstall the anode rod after the water heater is drained, this will prevent dust and insects from entering the heater while in storage.

SUMMER



WINTER



- 3) Turn the water heater bypass valves located inside of the vehicle to the winter position. The valve handle at the top of water heater on the red line should be closed, the valve at the bottom of the water heater on the blue line should be closed. The valve in between where the red and blue lines connect should be open. (The valves are closed when the handle of the valve makes a T with the water line.) If you have the Instant water heater you will not have these valves and anode rod.
- 4) Remove the water line from the inlet side of the water pump. (This is the clear plastic line going into the filler.) Connect a siphon hose (Phil Friday Sept 5) to the inlet side of the water pump place the other end in a container RV Non toxic antifreeze. Turn on your water pump.



NOTE: Siphon hose consists of 20' or 30' clear tubing with a fitting (a) attach to the water pump. (can be purchased through a RV dealer).

- 5) Open the kitchen and bathroom faucets one at a time allowing the antifreeze to flow through both the hot and the cold sides. Be sure to also open the toilet valve and exterior shower faucet. Turn off the water pump and disconnect the siphon hose, reattach the original fitting.
- 6) Pour 1/2 cup of anti freeze down each drain (Kitchen sink, bathroom sink and shower drain.)



- 7) Fully charge your auxiliary and turn off and remove the red key disconnect.
- 8) Turn you thermostat to the off position using the mode button.
- 9) Turn your propane tank off.
- 10) Place your fridge door in a slightly ajar position.

It is recommended that you start and run your vehicle and generator once a month during the winter season.

Water Use:

We recommend that the water system not be used when the outside temperature drops below the freezing point. You should ensure that your unit is completely winterized by that time. If it is necessary to use the water system, we suggest that you bring containers of fresh water with you and add non-toxic RV antifreeze to the gray and black water holding tanks. **NOTE:** Keep in mind that as you add more water to the holding tanks the antifreeze will dilute more than the recommended amount and may start to freeze earlier at cold temperatures.



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TIP #31

Tripod Table Bases

Owners have asked about options for setting up their table and removing the surface mount table base from the coach. The Tripod table base will allow you to place your table in your chosen position either inside or outside of the motorhome.

- 1) Open the tripod table base.
- 2) Insert the table pole into the tripod base.
- 3) Place the Table top post reliever onto the table post.



A tripod table base can be purchased from a local RV dealer.



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TIP #32

Sealing the vents and joints

Owners have asked what type of sealant do you use on the motor home around the vents and joints in the bathroom and other areas of the motor home. Pleasure-Way prefers to use a Dow Corning RTV sealant which is a silicone based product. We try to color match the silicone to the application. The Aluminum or silver silicone is #732, the clear #733, White #733, Almond # 786.



Basic repair procedures for resealing areas your unit:

- 1) Identify the loose silicone area
- 2) Cut away the loose silicone and remove it.
- 3) Clean the area.

(1)



(2)



(3)



- 4) Apply a bead of silicone over lapping $\frac{1}{2}$ " on each end. Go directly to step (5) do not allow the silicone to begin to dry before tooling the silicone.

(4)



(5)



- 5) Using a soapy water solution (a drop of dish soap into $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of water) dip your finger or silicone edge tool into the solution and strike off the extra silicone leaving a clean smooth seal.

This same procedure can be applied to the inside and outside of your vehicle. The seals on your motor home should be checked yearly.



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TIP #33

Turning up the heat....

We have had a break from the Phil Friday section. I hear it is time to take my feet off my desk, set my coffee cup down and start writing tips again.

This is the first day of spring although it may be warm in the day, the nights can be cool and you may want to use your furnace. Pleasure-Way uses the Atwood thermostat in a lot of the units. The Atwood thermostat has an off/on switch on the top and the temperature slide switch on the bottom. (Past units may have switches flipped)



Some owners have asked how hard do I have to push the off/on switch to switch the furnace off and on. The thermostat switch is a plastic arm that must go over a plastic bump to switch off and on. You may have to push the switch quite hard to move the arm over the plastic bump. When the furnace is off the contacts in the thermostat will not be connected. When the furnace is on the contacts in the thermostat will be connected. (I have removed the thermostat cover in the top line of pictures. The cover is removed by pulling it straight out from the mounted portion of the thermostat.)

Switch off

Points separated

Switch on

Points connected



When the switch is on and the temperature slide switch is above the room temperature, the furnace fan will come on for a few seconds and then the furnace will ignite. Once the vehicle has reached the desired temperature the flame will go out but the fan will continue for a few seconds.

I hope this will explain how the thermostat functions on you Pleasure-Way motor home.



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TIP #34

Window crank replacement

Creation window crank replacement.

Crank and Roller Mechanism can be found at www.pellandent.com

5 1/2" Mechanism part #H008-227

To reinsert the rollers into the track

- 1) Open the window mid-way between fully open and fully closed.
- 2) Snap the center window roller stop out of the middle of the roller track.



- 3) Crank the mechanism out till the wheels enter the center section of the window.
(Be careful with the window at this point as it may disengage from the C tracks that hinge the window.)



- 4) Reinsert the rollers into the center track and begin to rotate the crank mechanism to the closed position.



- 5) Crank the window mid-way open and reinstall the plastic center stop.



Your crank mechanism should operate as normal. Remember to lubricate the roller track with a dry lubricant such as spray silicone.

If you are replacing the complete mechanism you will have to drill out the pop rivets and pop rivet in the new mechanism.





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RV'ing tips n tricks

TIP #35

Knowing what you can tow...

There have been a number of questions that have come in about towing and towing capacities of the vehicle. Here in general is a breakdown of determining what you can tow.

I will answer this in two parts. Part #1 will be simple and easy, Part #2 will be more in depth for those who want all the detail ([next week](#)).

Part #1 Simple and Easy

What you need to know before you can figure out tow capacity.

- 1) GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating). This is displayed on a placard on the driver door pillar. Maximum weight of vehicle cargo and occupants.
- 2) GCWR (Gross Combined vehicle weight rating) This is sometimes displayed on the vehicle or you may have to check the vehicle (Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford, Mercedes etc.) owner's manual for this information or by contacting the Chassis Dealer with your VIN #

Example: 3500 Mercedes Sprinter Van (Please refer to the chassis manufacture for you unit)

(Sample Label from a 2015 Sprinter van)



Pleasure-Way will in general state a towing capacity using $GCWR - GVWR = \text{Towing capacity}$. The placard above as an example $15,250 \text{ lbs.} - 11,030 \text{ lbs.} = 4220 \text{ lbs.}$ for the towing capacity. Pleasure-Way works with the understanding that an owner can load the vehicle to the capacity (GVWR 11030 lbs. as stated above). The loaded vehicle weight includes the vehicle, occupants, fluids (water, Fuel, Propane), cargo, food items and the Trailer Tongue Weight.

Please note the hitch rating on the vehicle will also play a factor in what weight you can tow.

Never exceed the GVWR, GCWR, GAWR Front, GAWR Rear of the vehicle or the hitch capacity.

GAWR - Gross Axle Weight Rating



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TIP #56

Knowing what you can tow...

Towing Part #2 For those who want a more in depth explanation:

What you need to know before you can figure out tow capacity:

- 1) GVWR (Gross Vehicle Weight Rating) This is displayed on a placard on the driver door pillar. Maximum weight of vehicle cargo and occupants.
- 2) GCWR (Gross Combined weight rating) This is sometimes displayed on the vehicle or you may have to check the vehicle (Chevrolet, Dodge, Ford, Mercedes etc.) owner's manual for this information or by contacting the Chassis Dealer with your VIN #
- 3) GAWR (Gross Axle Weight Rating) This information will be displayed on the driver door pillar. This information gives you the maximum weight that can be put onto the front or rear axle. The axle weight ratings are used for weight distribution in the vehicle.

* Please note that if you reach the front and rear axle weight ratings, the total weight will be greater than the GVWR. The GVWR is the limit based on the maximum weight of the vehicle.

Example: 3500 Mercedes Sprinter Van



(Sample Label from a 2015 Sprinter van)

- 4) OCCC (occupant and cargo carrying capacity) (USA only)
OCCC is determined by GVWR - UVW (unladen vehicle weight) = OCCC
The UVW includes the weight of the unloaded vehicle plus all operating fluids (Fuel, oil, coolant and propane) filled to capacity. The OCCC label became an industry standard in 2009 for the USA.

OCCC Labels (USA)



- 5) CCC (cargo carrying capacity) (Canada only)
CCC is determined by GVWR - UVW - (rating (70 kg or 154 lbs/ seat belt) - fresh water (3.78 kg or 8.3lbs/ USA gallon) = CCC

This label can be found on the driver door inside the vehicle. (Sample Label)



Using the labels above you can now start to calculate the maximum towing capacity of the vehicle:

Example in pounds: | All weights stated below are hypothetical, for use as an example |
 (OCCC) 2846 lbs - driver 220 lbs - passenger 165lbs = 2657lbs
 2657lbs - 1/2 tank water 108 pounds = camping gear, clothes, etc. 350 lbs = 2201
 2201 - trailer tongue weight 400 pounds = 1801 pounds remaining cargo-carrying capacity remaining to reach the maximum GVWR. Loaded vehicle weight will be 9229lbs

If you do not want to do the math, load the vehicle with all items you will carry when you travel, include a full tank and fuel and propane. Weigh the vehicle at a local scale. Subtract the weight number from 15,250 to obtain the towing capacity.

Remember - Pleasure-Way will in general state a towing capacity GCWR - GVWR = Towing capacity. The placard above 15,250 lbs - 11,030 lbs = 4220 lbs
 Actual towing capacity: All weights are hypothetical and are used for example purposes only
 GCWR 15250 - actual loaded vehicle weight 9229 = 6021 lbs towing capacity.

- Do not exceed the GAWR for both the front and rear of the vehicle
- Do not exceed the GVWR of the vehicle
- Do not exceed the specified towing capacity of the vehicle as stated on the vehicle's owner's manual.



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TIP #37

Inverter / Converter ... ?

A question that is often asked "What is the difference between an inverter and a converter?"

Converter



In most cases your RV will be equipped with a Converter. When the coach is plugged into an adequate shore power source the Converter takes 120 volt power (AC power) and converts it to 12 volt power (DC power). This allows for operation of all 12 volt systems inside the vehicle without depleting the coach battery. In most cases the converter will also have a coach battery charging feature.

The converters Pleasure-Way has used over the years are as follows. Magnetek 6332, Magnetek 7445, Progressive Dynamics (Inteli-Power) PD9130, PD9140A and PD9245C. Models older than 1990 may have used a different converter.

Inverter



An Inverter takes the 12 volt power (DC power) and inverts it up to 120 volt power (AC power). In most cases the only inverter Pleasure-Way will put into the vehicle is used on the Television entertainment system. This usually is a 400 - 450 watt inverter (3.3 amp) that can be used with the TV and DVD system when you are dry camping. The inverter will have a GFI plug on the outlet end and a power switch on the opposite end next to the fan.

Battery operating time

Operating time will vary depending on the charge level of the battery, its capacity and the power level drawn by the particular AC load. With a typical boat battery (50 Ah) and a 100 W load (such as a small TV), an operating time of 2 or 3 hours or more can be expected.

When using a boat battery as a power source, it is strongly recommended to take the boat every hour or two to recharge the battery before its capacity drops too low. The XPower 450 can operate while the engine is running, but the normal voltage drop that occurs during starting of the engine may trigger the Inverter's

low voltage shutdown feature. Because the power inverter does not shut off with the ON/OFF switch in the "ON" position and without AC power, it has no effect on battery operating time.

The battery operating time of the XPower 450 depends on the charge level of the battery, battery capacity, and the amount of power drawn by the AC load, you are operating. With a typical vehicle battery, you can expect the following:

Table 1 Battery Operating Times

Load	Sample Appliance	Operating Time (continuous)
50 watts	CD player	5-6 hours
100 watts	small TV	3-4 hours
200 watts	computer system	1-2 hours



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TIP #38

Cooktop Striker problems?

People have enquired about the striker on the Smev/Domestic cook top. Comments have come in about the strikers only working some of the time and that on occasion a BBQ lighter will have to be used to ignite the flame.

Smev Cook Top Basics:

The Smev cook top burner consists of

- 1) Striker
- 2) Thermocouple
- 3) Burner distribution plate with top cap
- 4) Propane orifice (Under part 3)



Trouble shooting igniting the burner:

- 1) Check the striker position and ensure there is a good spark. The striker may move slightly in or out from the top cap.
- 2) Ensure the Thermopile is clean. Once the burner is ignited the thermopile will keep the cooktop lit.
- 3) Remove the two T10 torque screws from the top cap and remove the top cap. Ensure the burner distribution top is clean.



- 4) Clean the groove directly in from the striker. This groove will be higher.



- 5) Reassemble the burner.

Hopefully this will assist you in keeping your Smev stove operating.



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Tip #39

Understanding your three way fridge

The basic cycle: (very basic, this does not include all the details)

- Heat applied to the ammonia/water solution contained in the generator. At boiled it goes through the separator creating ammonia gas.
- The ammonia gas travels up through the tubes to the condenser. At the condenser the ammonia gas dissipates the heat, turning into a form of liquid ammonia.
- The liquid ammonia mixes with hydrogen in the evaporator creating a hydrogen/ammonia gas solution which removes the heat from inside the refrigerator.
- The hydrogen/ammonia mix flows into the absorber. In the absorber the water is reintroduced into the gas solution separating the hydrogen which returns to the evaporator creating the ammonia/water solution that returns to the generator.
- As long as heat is applied the cycle will continue. The fridge will continue to cool.
- A level fridge will cool the most efficiently. All the gases and fluid will flow as designed.

Heat Sources:

Your fridge is equipped with three heat sources:

- AC (110 volt) heating element.
- DC (12 volt) heating element
- Propane or LP gas

These heat sources work independently from one another.

In all cases you need DC power to the fridge. The DC power controls switching and the temperature control of the fridge.

Trouble shooting the fridge:

Fridge not coming on DC power:

1. Ensure the battery disconnect switch is in the on position.
2. Ensure the manual reset breaker for the fridge is not tripped. Reset button on the copper post end, it is a small black tab.
3. In some cases the fridge will also have a 30 amp fuse in the lower fridge vent area.



Fridge not coming on AC power

1. Ensure the DC power is on.
2. Ensure you are connected to a 110 power source or the generator on.
3. Check the GFCI in the bathroom or kitchen area.



Fridge not coming on in propane /LP

1. Ensure you have DC power
2. Ensure the propane switch or valve is open
3. Ensure the burner tube in the lower fridge vent is clean and clear.
(Next week - Cleaning the fridge burner tube.)

For Best results:

- Ensure the Fridge vents are kept clean and clear.
- Keep the fridge as level as possible.
- If possible keep the fridge vents in the shade.
- For Storage always ensure the fridge door is left in a slightly open position.
- Always cool your fridge before stocking it with items
- Fridge cooling rate is between 3 - 6 degrees per hour when cooling begins. This will depend on outside temperature, air flow and level of the fridge.



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TIP #40

Cleaning the fridge burner tube

Cleaning the Fridge Burner Tube:

Before starting this process ensure your fridge has not been in operation for 24 hours. Ensure the exterior fridge is at room temperature. Ensure the power has been disconnected. Ensure the main Lp/ Propane valve is in the off position.

- 1) Remove the upper and lower fridge vents.
- 2) Remove the burner cover from the fridge located in the lower fridge vent
- 3) Remove the retainer and baffle from the fridge tube located in the upper fridge vent.
- 4) Used compressed air to blow up and down the burner tube.
- 5) Once all the debris is removed from the burner tube ensure the burner is clean and clear.
- 6) Ensure the striker is located in the propane area over top of the burner.
- 7) Ensure the propane orifice is clear and clean.
- 8) Replace the retainer and baffle on the top of the burner tube.
- 9) Replace the burner cove at the bottom of the burner tube.
- 10) Turn on the 12 volt power and the Lp/propane valve and test the fridge for gas operation.
- 11) Replace the upper and lower fridge vents.

