

THINGS TO DO

FLUSHING RV
WATER HEATER

A CHECKLIST FOR

RVerS



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FLUSHING RV WATER HEATER: A Checklist for RVers

If you don't want to smell the aroma of rotten eggs, you should flush your RV water heater every six months. The following checklist, along with your owner's manual, will help you with the flushing process.

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FLUSHING RV WATER HEATER CHECKLIST

CAUTION

OWNER'S MANUAL:

- Follow instructions in your owner's manual. (The major difference between various RV water heater configurations is the existence of an anode rod, a solid metal cylinder that gets screwed into a water heater's drain plug to prevent a steel water heater tank from rusting.)

FREQUENCY:

- You should flush your water heater every six months.

PLANNING:

- Turn OFF power to water heater the night before you flush it for cooling.

YOU'LL NEED

- White Plumbers Tape
- White Vinegar (5 gallons)
- Water Heater Tank Rinser
- Water Hose
- Wrenches (if needed for Anode Rod)
- Anode Rod (if Water Heater has Anode Rod)

CHECKLIST

- Turn OFF city water and make sure water pump is OFF.
- Inspect water heater for loose connections and insect intrusion, and remove debris carefully.
- Open relief valve on top of water heater to expel any pressure in hot water tank.
- Open water heater tank drain valve and leave it open until all water drains.
- Use hose with water heater tank rinser to thoroughly flush tank.

FLUSHING RV WATER HEATER CHECKLIST

- Inspect anode rod (if water heater has one) and replace if necessary.
- Flip valves on winterizing kit, place hose inside of vinegar jug and turn ON water pump.
- Once all vinegar is pumped into system, pump about one gallon of fresh water.
- Flip valves on winterizing kit back to NORMAL position and store hose.
- With pressure valve in OPEN position, turn ON city water and wait for water to come out.
- Shut pressure valve OFF.
- Turn ON electric or propane water heater.
- Once it's done heating, turn OFF water heater and wait for it to cool overnight.
- With city water turned OFF, open pressure relief valve.
- Remove anode or plug to drain.
- Once vinegar water solution drains, use hose and wand to flush the system again.
- Wrap end of anode with Teflon tape and reinstall it tightly, or reinstall plug.
- With pressure relief valve in OPEN position, turn city water back ON to fill system.
- When water begins to flow out of pressure relief valve, flip it to CLOSED position.
- Dry area around anode or plug and make sure there aren't leaks.
- Turn ON warm water at each faucet in your RV until you don't smell vinegar and ALL air has been expelled.
- Turn water heater power back ON.