

RV Fire Safety

A Fire Safety Message from the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control

A guide for preventing fires in recreational vehicles.

Whether camping, partying or just relaxing in your RV, fire safety is essential. It is critical that every member of your party know what to do in an emergency or fire.

① Safety Equipment

- Smoke Alarms
Install a UL-approved smoke alarm designed for recreational vehicles.
Test your smoke alarm once a week during use.
- Fire Extinguishers
Install a five-pound ABC rated fire extinguisher near each exit.
Know how to use your fire extinguisher.
- Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors
Install a carbon monoxide detector that is tested and listed by an independent testing lab.

② Evacuation Plans

- Even as simple as getting out of the camper may seem, evacuating a smoke filled RV will present you with many challenges
- Ensure everyone knows how to operate the latches of doors and windows, particularly those intended for emergency egress.

③ If You Smell Gas

- Extinguish all open flames (pilot lights, lamps, smoking materials, etc.)
- Do not operate electrical switches, even turning a switch on or off can create a spark and may cause an explosion.
- Shut off gas supply.
- Leave the unit until odor is gone.
- Have the gas system checked and repaired before using again.

④ Cooking Appliances

- It is not safe to use cooking appliances for comfort heating. Cooking appliances need fresh air flow for safe operation. Unlike homes, the amount of oxygen supply is limited due to the size of the RV. Proper ventilation when using the cooking appliances will reduce the danger of asphyxiation.
- Before operation of your stove or oven, open overhead venting or turn on exhaust fan.
- Open a window

⑤ Vehicle Maintenance

- Repair any engine or transmission oil leaks as soon as possible, especially on an automatic transmission since transmission fluid is highly flammable. It will ignite easily and burn with great rapidity.



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Office of Fire Prevention and Control

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