

FRESH WATER SYSTEMS

Sanitizing your fresh water system

Insuring clean, safe drinking water in your Winnebago Industries motor home requires periodic sanitizing. After extended storage periods you will want to sanitize the system before you use it.

Here's one procedure (as approved by the U.S. Public Health Service):

1. Prepare a chlorine solution using one gallon of water and one-fourth cup of household bleach (sodium hypochlorite solution). With the tank empty, pour the chlorine solution into the tank. Use one gallon of solution for each 15 gallons of tank capacity.
2. Complete filling of tank with fresh water. Open each faucet and run the water until a distinct odor of chlorine can be detected in the water discharge. Do not forget the hot water taps.
3. This procedure will result in a residual chlorine concentration of 50 PPM in the water system. If a 100 PPM concentration is required, use a half cup of household bleach with one gallon water to prepare the chlorine solution. Again, one gallon of the solution should be used for each 15 gallons of tank capacity. Allow the system to stand at least four hours when disinfecting with 50 PPM residual chlorine. If a shorter time period is desired, then a 100 PPM chlorine concentration should be permitted to stand in the system for at least one hour.
4. Drain and flush with fresh water.

Your fresh water system should now be safe and clean.

TIPS

- Use a dedicated drinking water approved hose for your fresh water. When you are finished with it, connect the two ends together. This will keep the hose clean.
- Don't use the hose you use to clean your black tank for fresh water!
- Know your water source. Ask questions.
- When connecting to an outside water source, safeguard your system by using a water pressure regulator. We recommend a regulator that limits water pressure to 40 PSI maximum.
- If you find that some water supplies taste metallic or musty, have a rotten egg odor or a fishy smell, you may consider installing a water filtration system. Keep in mind that filters will remove contaminants such as sand and rust, improve taste and odor, but are not a purifier and will not kill bacteria and other microorganisms.
- If you follow these simple steps and suggestions, you can be confident that your fresh water system is truly fresh.