

Welcome Back!

We are so happy that spring and summer are here! Sun mixed with clouds and some showers will not deter our spirits at Blue Haven. We would like to use this Gazette to help improve your camping experience by giving tips and reminders. Please feel free to add your thoughts and ideas towards any new Gazette by Tuesdays at noon.

Camp Store

Please feel free to come to the Blue Haven store for your miscellaneous parts. We have a collection of items that may help with your awning issue or clean your toilet. If we do not have the particular item in stock, we would be happy to order. Also, you can check the Plattsburgh store to see if your needed part is located there. The catalog we order parts from is also located on www.momot.com, and you can order your parts that way as well.

Propane System Startup

If you have not used your camper for a while, the propane gas system may have a certain amount of air in the lines. It is a good idea when opening it up for the season to first turn on the gas bottle valve. Light one of the stovetop burners. This does two things: this purges air from most of the system and establishes a visual check that gas is present and flowing smoothly. When testing your propane flow in your stove, you notice an irregular flame or more orange flame than blue. This might be an indication of a problem with the regulator. Once the stove burner lights and the flame is steady, light the other appliances.

Propane Safety

When the propane is used properly, the propane that supplies your camper various functions. For example these functions heating your camper, cooking your meals, and even keeping your food cold. When the propane is not used properly, the dangers can be lethal. Here are some common safety guidelines that will keep you safe.

If You Smell Gas

(an odor similar to rotten eggs)

1. Immediately put out all smoking materials, pilot lights, and other open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or fire.
2. If you are able to, safely turn off the gas supply valve on your cylinder or container.
3. Open all doors and other ventilating openings.
4. Immediately leave the area, call 911 or the local fire department.
5. Before you restart or use any of your propane appliances, please have a qualified service technician inspect your entire system.



Transporting Propane

When you have to move propane bottles, the New York State Department of Transportation asks this to be done legally and safely if you follow these simple guidelines:

- The cylinder must be secured to not move during transport.
- There must be a plug installed in the opening if the valve were to fail. This valve will prevent any vapor from escaping.
- A cylinder safety cap must be installed to protect the valve from being destroyed in the event of an accident.
- The cylinder must be in a well ventilated area of the vehicle. This does not include a closed trunk for example. This spot could be in the back seat if the windows are rolled down.

The cylinder must be transported in the upright position for the following reasons:

- The vent could let out propane LIQUID if the tank needs to vent due to being moved around or even the change in temperature. This movement or change in temperature could create an explosive environment.
- The vapor pick-up tube can fill with LIQUID propane and when the tank is attached to your camper. The initial shot of what should be vapor could be actually be that liquid. This can damage your regulator or worse by creating a high gas pressure condition with your appliance. This can produce larger flames, damage the appliance or start a fire within your camper.



Awning Care & Maintenance

Check your awning's hardware for operation at the beginning of each season. Be sure to also lubricate buttons, handles, and threaded knobs. Be careful not to get petroleum based lubricants on the fabric. Remember to lower one end of your awning if you are going to leave or during extended during rain storms. Roll the awning up when leaving unattended or during periods of high winds. Most awning damage is related to water pooling on the fabric or torn loose in high winds.

Vinyl awning fabrics are mildew resistant. Mildew will form by the collection of the tree sap, dirt, and dust that will accumulate on an awning in normal use. Periodic cleaning can prevent this.

Clean with a commercial awning cleaner, or with a solution of $\frac{1}{4}$ cup liquid dish detergent, $\frac{1}{4}$ cup household bleach and mixed with 5 gallons of water. Extend your awning and swab the fabric using a soft brush, mop, or sponge. This should be applied to the top and bottom. The top first then roll up the awning for a few minutes. Extend the awning and rinse well with fresh water. Repeat if necessary. Let dry before rolling up for storage.

