

## PREPARING DRAINAGE SYSTEM FOR STORAGE

The entire drainage system should be thoroughly drained and flushed with fresh water. The following procedures are recommended:

1. Completely drain holding tank(s) of waste material.
2. Flush sinks, shower, and lavatory with solution of hot water, water softener and soap. Rinse well and allow solution to drain into tanks. Flush with clean hot water.
3. Agitate water in tank by rocking vehicle or, for more thorough cleaning, drive vehicle for a few miles. Drain tanks again.
4. Alternate to Step No. 3 is to use a chemical deodorant — let mixture stand a few days and then drain.
5. Flush with fresh water and drain again.
6. Fill traps and partially fill tanks with an anti-freeze approved for use in plastic pipes. Normally a cupful of anti-freeze poured into each drain will fill the trap. Do not use anti-freeze solutions with an alcohol base.

## STORAGE DURING FREEZING WEATHER - GENERAL

A battery that is not kept up to full charge must be given protection against freezing. A partially charged battery will freeze at low temperatures, so it must either be left connected to a trickle charger or removed from the recreational vehicle and stored in a warm location. A battery will normally discharge itself in a few weeks, so if it is to maintain a charged condition, it still must be charged from time to time even in warm storage. Add water as required.

Remove all items from the RV which may freeze, including canned foods, miscellaneous liquids, etc. Remove all contents of the refrigerator/freezer, clean the unit and leave doors ajar.

## STORAGE DURING NON-FREEZING WEATHER - GENERAL

Battery protection should be the same as for freezing weather, as unused batteries will shortly discharge themselves. For prolonged storage, drain and flush out all systems. Leave ventilators open as much as possible without admitting rain. Remove perishables and empty refrigerator/freezer leaving it clean, with doors ajar. Put a cap or screen over the roof vent of the refrigerator. Birds find this an attractive place to build nests. Be sure to remove the cap before using the refrigerator again.

## GENERAL STORAGE NOTES

Drawing drapes will reduce fade of rugs and upholstery. Leaving an air freshener agent will minimize odors from plastics and other materials. Slight opening of windows and vents will allow air circulation without worry of water entering. For prolonged storage, it is advisable to go over all roof seams and vent flashing seams with a good roof coating material. Spraying silicone on folding antenna mechanisms will minimize effects of corrosion. Spray "A" frame and hitch with a clear acrylic to minimize corrosion when stored in a salt water area. Covering wheels to eliminate direct rays of the sun on tires will reduce the sidewall cracking.

## SERVICING YOUR RV

### RV BODY AND SUSPENSION SYSTEM

Life of exterior paint can be extended by maintaining it in a waxed condition. This not only preserves the paint, but allows easier removal of dirt and road tars. Use of touch-up paint for small areas keeps the recreational vehicle in like-new condition.

If you park where a heavy salt spray is evident, it's advisable to wash the vehicle frequently. Use of clear acrylic spray on the "A" frame, wheels, and hitch assembly will help control corrosive effects of salt.

The RV interior can be kept in good condition with the use of approved cleaning agents for vinyl walls and ceilings, plastic fixtures, stainless steel, formica, etc. Never use abrasive agents on interior of refrigerators or on plastic sinks, as they may cause permanent scratches. Be sure the cleaning agent will not damage the material to be cleaned. Some plastics are incompatible with certain cleaners. Read the directions on the cleaner container.

### WHEELS AND BRAKES

Wheel bearings should be cleaned and packed approximately every 20,000 miles. If operating in lots of wet weather, this should be done more frequently. Always check bearings to determine condition and replace when necessary. Grease seals may have to be replaced when repacking bearings. Try to have an authorized dealer pack your wheels, and double check them for correct tightness.

Electric brakes should be checked periodically to determine condition of magnets and drums, and whether wiring connections are still secure (see manufacturer's instructions). Brakes can be adjusted with a conventional brake adjusting tool. Brakes should be adjusted to activate ahead of the tow vehicle brakes for best road control. Consult the manufacturer's instructions or your dealer for detailed maintenance and service procedures.