



**THE  
EXTRA MILE**



**NEW RV PRODUCT  
LAUNCHES AND FEATURES**

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**BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE:  
THOR'S ELECTRIC RV CONCEPTS**

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**OUR BEST STORIES FROM THE ROAD**

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# THOR FAMILY OF COMPANIES





# 32

COVER STORY

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

THOR's electric RV concepts



**Bob Martin,**  
*President & CEO*

We're very excited to launch our first issue of The Extra Mile, THOR's new magazine. As the world's largest RV manufacturer and leader in the industry, it's important that we highlight the incredible work being done across the THOR global family of companies, as well as share valuable information and uplifting stories which inspire, inform and guide consumers as they experience the many joys of RVing.

In this issue, you'll find exciting new products and updates from our family of companies. We take great pride in our operating companies, and our decentralized business model ensures that each company has its own, unique identity to successfully target and reach a wide range of consumers.

In an effort to better understand these consumers, we pursue and share data and insights about the evolving RV lifestyle, which help inform product innovation and user experience across the THOR family of companies, building brand loyalty. THOR regularly publishes RV industry reports and surveys ranging from the RV rental experience to the value of electrification for future RVs—which you'll find in this issue.

As we continue our focus on evolving the RV lifestyle, innovation and electrification will be key focal points for THOR. In December, we entered into a partnership with ZF, a leading global technology company enabling next generation mobility. The eTrailer System, which THOR, Erwin Hymer Group (EHG) and ZF jointly developed over the last several years, is the only high-voltage solution in the RV space. And earlier this year—thanks in part to the work done by ZF and EHG—THOR proudly unveiled two new electric RV concepts: the motorized THOR Vision Vehicle and the e-Stream travel trailer. As a global leader in the space, our approach to eMobility includes harnessing emerging technology and co-developing flexible, scalable and customizable platforms on which our family of companies can build distinct products, providing best-in-class RV user experiences.

In addition to innovation, sustainability will also continue to be an integral and ongoing part of THOR's culture. We are proactively addressing environmental, social and governance risk, and believe our sustainability efforts will have a positive impact on our business, consumers, team members, partners, and the communities in which we live, work and play. THOR is honored to have multi-year partnerships with organizations like the National Forest Foundation and Girl Scouts of America, which compliment and help expand our sustainability efforts.

We are confident in the future success of THOR and the RV industry. Looking ahead, we see endless opportunities to introduce people to the life-long benefits that the RV lifestyle offers. RVing allows people to connect with nature and one another, provides the ability to create your own adventure—whether it be closer to home or an epic road trip—and allows folks to Go Everywhere and Stay Anywhere.

At THOR, we aim to go the extra mile and we're excited to have you along for the ride.

**6 OUR MAGICAL YEAR OF RVING**

**48 THOR PARTNERSHIPS**

**12 PEDALING WITH PURPOSE**

**54 THOR AMBASSADORS**

**18 REPORTS, SURVEYS & INNOVATION**

**56 OUR FIRST BLACK WATER MISTAKE**

**28 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT**

**60 CARING FOR ANIMALS ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

**38 NEW PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS**

**62 CHIA POWER BLISS BALLS**

# OUR MAGICAL YEAR OF RVING

## WE ARE THE CAREWS.

My husband Kenton and I have been married for 15 years, and we have three incredible children: Isabel, Adeline and Yabsira. In July 2019, our family made a big decision—we bought a Highland Ridge Open Range Roamer fifth wheel and set out on a year-long RV trip. And while we had every intention of moving back into our home in Colorado after a year, our plans changed and we made another really big decision.

We decided to become a full-time RV family.



## BEFORE OUR YEAR-LONG RV TRIP,

our family was living a pretty conventional life. There was school, volleyball practice and birthday parties—an endless flurry of activities and shuttling the kids back and forth that other parents can surely relate to. But there was one thing that made our family a bit more unique than most. Five years ago, Kenton and I made the decision to grow our family through an international adoption. And as wonderful and beautiful as adoptions can be, it can be a challenging experience. While we were overjoyed to have gained a son, we also knew that Yabsira was losing his biological family. It took time for our hearts and his to weave together with trust and love. I'll never forget when one of the counselors in our adoption class shared that, as a family, we needed to be prepared to exhaust everything in order to make sure Yabsira felt safe and connected. His struggles would be our family's struggles. His pain would be our pain. And I was willing to do anything to make sure Yabsira felt like a part of our family, including pack up and move, if that's what it took...

I had never owned an RV, and neither had my husband. We had a few friends that owned RVs, but, overall, our experience was minimal. It

wasn't until I started following some RV families on social media that I began to think seriously about the lifestyle—the simpler way of life, the incredible places to see and, most importantly, the closeness of being together and experiencing everything together. I knew I wanted that for us, and I wanted that for Yabsira.

Sitting around the breakfast table one morning, Kenton and I casually brought up the idea of RVing

for a year: "How would you like to do school in a camper for a while?" To our great surprise, the kids' reactions were unanimously excited! To them, it sounded like the best idea ever. Luckily, my father happens to be an RV sales rep. So, after giving him a call and discussing some options, we decided to do it. We were going to homeschool the kids and RV for a full year.

A month later, we were driving our Open Range Roamer fifth wheel home from the dealer. And not long after that, with our house in Colorado

rented, we were pulling out of the driveway and on our way to start a year of magical RVing. We knew exciting things were ahead, but our hearts were sad to say goodbye. Deep down, I knew this is what our family needed.

Life on the road was both fun and challenging. For me, as a mom, I was uncovering the parts of my heart that I couldn't ignore anymore by



*Rather than a busy schedule, we decided slow mornings with a book are way more fun.*



*The South Dakota Badlands right outside the front door—these are the moments you live for as a full-time RV family.*

living a busy life. About four months into our trip, I began to see some major breakthroughs with our family. Our “why” for doing this year-long journey was to grow closer and heal as a family of five. And it was working.

### ISABEL

Our oldest daughter has felt the transition to RV life the deepest. We were nervous to pull her out of middle school—which can be such profoundly formative years—and start homeschooling her at age 13, but she says it’s definitely been worth it. She learned about American history on an Amish farm in Ohio, got to see the ocean for the first time in Maine, and has met countless friends along the way, many of which she still stays in touch with. She’s also recently taken up the ukulele—something I don’t think she would’ve done at home in Colorado.

### ADELINE

Our second daughter fell in love with the RV lifestyle immediately. At 10 years old, she still loves to explore and play. In fact, she spent hours on the beach in Maine pretending to be shipwrecked and searching for buried treasure. The best part for her has been waking up to new places and opening our front door to new adventures every day.

### YABSIRA

Our youngest boy (who we affectionately call Yebbie) has been impacted by our RV life the most. I honestly believe our year on the road brought him closer to us, and this is a huge reason why we want to keep going. I’ve seen new bonds form between the siblings that never would’ve been possible in our old lives. I’ve also seen 7 year old Yebbie grow within himself. Between bike rides through the everglades and

hunting for shark teeth along the riverbanks of Florida, he’s finding a new sense of adventure and confidence.

So, here we are, one year later and we’ve decided to jump into RVing head-first. If I’ve learned anything from that year on the road it’s that love heals. And I know love will continue to heal as we continue this journey. We’ve gone through all the phases of RVing—from a few weekend trips with friends to a year on the road to full-time living—and we’ve learned some valuable lessons across all phases.



*These two grew a special bond over the last year. I really believe this brought a lot of healing to our hearts.*



When we aren't sightseeing or home schooling, we dabble in crafts like macrame.

SO, REGARDLESS IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT GETTING AN RV OR ARE READY TO GO FULL-TIME, HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO GUIDE YOU ALONG THE WAY.

**1 Personalize Your Bedroom.** This was a huge priority to me since I knew we would be around our kids 24/7. It is nice to have your own personal space that you can retreat to at night, wake up in and hide away during rainy days.

**2 Cook As Much As You Can.** In addition to the RV's stove and oven, use an Instant Pot, air fryer or crock pot. It's so much fun cooking in an RV with the kids, and makes it feel even more like home.

**3 Look Into Memberships.** If you plan to travel a lot, getting an RV or campground membership will help you save money. We specifically use Harvest Hosts, Thousand Trails, Passport America, and Boondockers Welcome.

**4 Make A Patio When You Park.** Expand your space by creating a little patio for yourself right outside the RV. I like to use fairy lights, candles, some plants, an outdoor mat, and a few camping chairs to make the space feel like home. Plus, the patio can double as a date spot for you and your partner once the kids are in bed.

**5 Take The Plunge.** You can spend years and years debating whether RVing is the right step—there will always be something to deter you. So, take it from me when I say, stop wondering if you can do this and just take the next step!



Our first time seeing the ocean as a family at Acadia National Park in Bar Harbor, Maine.

#### FEATURED RV



Open Range Roamer  
Fifth Wheel



# PEDALING WITH PURPOSE

## BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH MOUNTAIN BIKING

When professional mountain biker Britt Greer first reached out to Brooke Goudy, co-leader of Black Girls Do Bike Denver, to see how she could aid Brooke in introducing more women of color to the mountain biking community, Britt was met

with some hesitancy. Was this white saviorism? After reflection from both Britt and Brooke, they decided to partner together to become mentor and mentee, as well as fast friends. To grow their relationship and help Brooke prepare for her first time leading a mountain biking clinic, Brooke and Britt hit the road for an RV camping trip.



TO WATCH THE VIDEO, SCAN HERE

## BROOKE GOUDY

Brooke is an athlete and bicycle advocate. She has a love for cycling, but her greatest joy is introducing cycling to women of color as a co-leader of Black Girls Do Bike Denver. As the community events manager for VIDA MTB Series, she co-leads an Impact Committee that works to eliminate barriers to make mountain biking more inclusive, equitable and diverse. Her love for biking extends to conservation and advocacy for trails. She recently became a member of the board of directors for Boulder Mountainbike Alliance and co-leads the Women's Colorado Mountain Bike Association Program as their program marketing manager.

Brooke serves on the Denver Mayor Advisory board, and is a member of the Denver Parks and Recreation Technical Advisory Committee. Having a seat at these tables allows her to identify the communities' needs, and prioritize opportunities to support equity, inclusion, and diversity in outdoor adventure sports.

Last summer, she rode the Great Divide Mountain Bike Route and developed a love for bikepacking. She is looking forward to competing in the Westfjords Way Challenge, 960 kilometers/595 miles around Iceland's most beautiful and remote landscape.



Brooke Goudy



Britt Greer

## BRITT GREER

Britt Greer is dedicated to getting more women on bikes. As the founder and director of the COMBA Women's Program (Colorado Mountain Bike Association), she has developed a series of events aimed to support, grow and empower the Colorado lady shred community. Since 2015, she's been a lead coach with VIDA MTB Series, Grit Clinics and other organizations, helping women confidently push past their comfort zones.

When she's not hosting events or coaching, Britt races pro in local enduro circuits, mostly to force herself out of her own comfort zone. Having lived in both Spain and Argentina for year-long stints, Britt has a deep rooted passion for travel. For her, there is nothing more soul-fulfilling than exploring the world via unsullied trails, and experiencing disparate and meaningful human connections along the way.





We caught up with Brooke Goudy and Britt Greer to learn more about their shared love of mountain biking and what motivates them to invite other women into the sport.

### WHAT MAKES A GOOD MOUNTAIN BIKING COACH? WHY DO YOU LIKE COACHING OTHERS?

#### **BROOKE:**

I personally love to mountain bike; it brings me so much joy. And to be able to share that passion with a community of other women is the best thing about coaching. Not only do I get to do something I love, but I get to help other people find that love as well. I get to watch people progress, learn new skills and experience the gift of accomplishing something that they otherwise might never have thought possible.

#### **BRITT:**

To be a good coach, especially for mountain biking, you have to demonstrate patience and positivity. When I'm coaching other women, I know they are looking at me to be a leader, to keep morale high, and to keep everyone feeling competent and safe. Mountain biking can be intimidating, and many people might not know what to expect, so you have to instill a sense of excitement that encourages people to push themselves. You also have to really fine-tune your feedback. It's one thing to demonstrate a certain move or position, but to be able to watch what someone is doing and give individual, specific advice on how to improve is the real challenge. It takes practice, but it is so rewarding when you see someone get it and feel confident doing it.

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO BEING OUT IN NATURE AND DOING AN ACTIVITY THAT YOU LOVE?

#### **BROOKE:**

When I'm outside doing something that I love, I feel very connected. Not only do I get a deeper connection with my surroundings, but I'm able to connect on a deeper level to the people that I'm with. There might be challenges and difficult paths to take, especially when you're mountain biking, but to be able to take those paths with someone else—to celebrate with someone or express frustration with someone—is really beautiful. And to have that connection outside, on a trail and away from the hustle of everyday life, is even more beautiful.

#### **BRITT:**

Being out in nature allows you to unplug from life and just be more present. You get to feel the



ground under your feet, you get to hear the wind in the trees, you get to see the wildlife around you, and it makes you feel more carefree. When I'm outside and I'm riding my bike, regardless of how fast I'm going, it's one of the few moments in my life that I'm able to slow down and be really present. It's like I've regained a sense of childhood wonder again.

### WHY IS REPRESENTATION IN THE OUTDOORS IMPORTANT TO YOU?

#### **BROOKE:**

When I first started mountain biking, there weren't very many people that looked like me in the sport. And for a long time, I never felt like part of a community; I would just ride by myself. So when I got the opportunity to join a mountain biking organization that had other women of color, it finally made me feel like I was part of a community. Representation is so important because if you're doing something that you love, but you look around and don't see anyone else that looks like you, you might start to think that maybe that thing isn't for you. So it's become my mission to create a safe, inclusive space that women of color can feel comfortable in. They can see a black woman on a bike or a black woman coaching and think to themselves, "Yes, I can do that too."

#### **BRITT:**

It's important that the mountain biking community, and the outdoor community as a whole, be representative of our broader communities. There are very few women in the outdoor space, especially women of color, but this is not an accurate representation of our global community. I also think there is so much joy to be had in the outdoors. Being outside and doing something like mountain biking offers so much value—to our lives, our health and our

happiness—and I want to share that with as many women and women of color as possible. I think there are a lot of people who haven't had the opportunity to experience that value, and I want to change that.



#### **FEATURED RV**



**Mallard Lightweight  
Travel Trailer**

# REPORTS, SURVEYS AND INNOVATION



# THOR NORTH AMERICAN CAMPER VAN STUDY

THOR Industries, Inc. conducted a North American Camper Van Study in August 2021 to survey self-identified Current and Potential Camper Van/Class B Motorhome Owners. This sample included New and Used Camper Van Owners who purchased their vehicle within the last 5 years (2016 to 2021) and Potential Camper Van Owners who plan to purchase a camper van within the next 5 years (2021-2026). These results are based on a total of n=630 surveys with a confidence level of 95% and an associated margin error of +/-3.8%. Note, margin of error shifts with segmented data.

## RESPONDENT DEFINITIONS

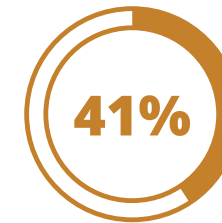
**Current Owners:** refers to New and Used Camper Van Owners (individuals who have self-identified as having purchased a new or used camper van between 2016 and 2021).

**Potential Owners:** self-identified as being interested in purchasing a camper van in the next 5 years.

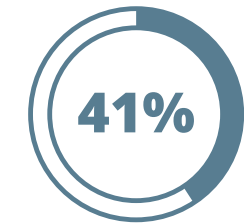


## WHY CURRENT OWNERS ULTIMATELY PURCHASED THEIR CAMPER VAN (TOP 3)

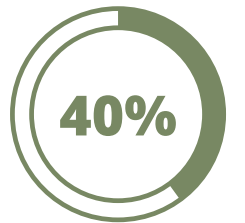
**97%** ★★★★★ of **Current Owners** report they are **SATISFIED** with their camper van



Travel flexibility

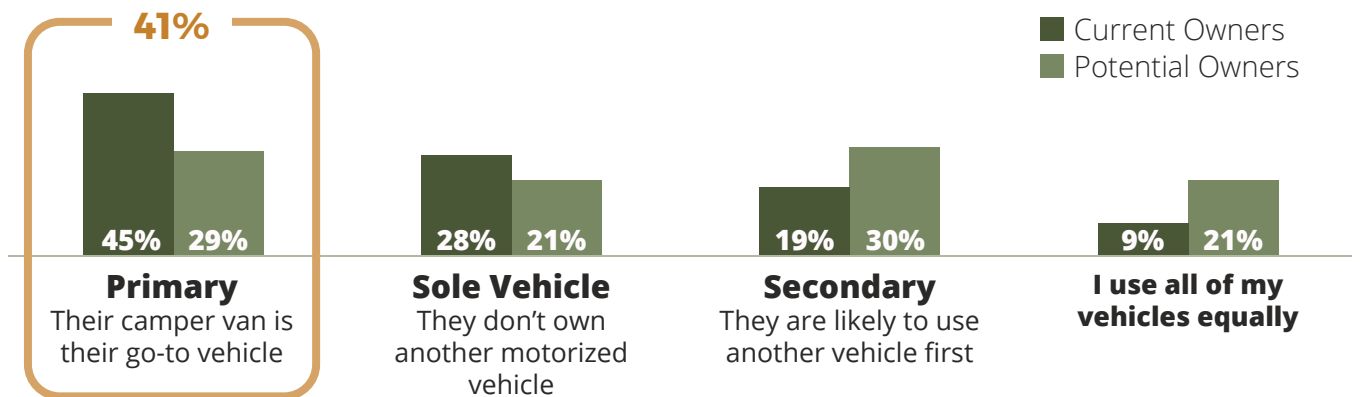


More comfortable travel experience



Safer way to travel

## CAMPER VAN USAGE/INTENDED USAGE COMPARED TO OTHER VEHICLES



**66%** of **Current Owners** who are likely to purchase another RV (57%) report they are **LIKELY TO BUY ANOTHER RV WITHIN THE NEXT 2 YEARS**

**83%** of all **Current and Potential Owners** who have previously owned an RV (71%) report they purchase an RV **EVERY 2 TO 5 YEARS**

**78%** of **Current and Potential Owners** report a **BUILT-IN SAFETY SYSTEM** as their top camper van feature

**29%** of **Current Owners** report they store/intend to store their camper van in their **GARAGE**

# THOR NORTH AMERICAN RV PATH TO PURCHASE STUDY

THOR Industries, Inc. conducted a North American RV Path To Purchase Study in April 2021 to survey current RV Purchasers who bought a new recreational vehicle between 2018-2021. This sample included consumers who purchased pre-COVID-19 and during COVID-19. These results are based on a total of n=880 surveys with a confidence level of 95% and an associated margin of error of +/-3%.

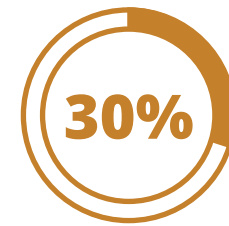
## RESPONDENT DEFINITIONS

**New RV Purchaser:** those who have purchased a new recreational vehicle (RV) between 2018 and 2021.

**Repeat RV Purchaser:** RV Purchasers who most recently purchased a new RV and have purchased a new RV in the past; includes Purchasers who may have also purchased a used RV in addition to a new RV in the past.



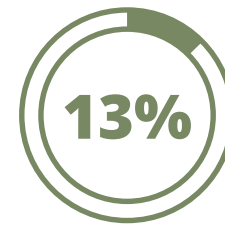
## THE MAIN REASON NEW RV PURCHASERS PURCHASED THEIR RV (TOP 3)



**More comfortable travel experience**



**Travel flexibility**



**Discover new places**

**39%** report that **A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND RECOMMENDATION** motivated them to seriously consider the new RV they most recently purchased

**95%** report they are **SATISFIED** with their recent, new RV purchase

**49%** report they **RENTED AN RV** prior to purchasing a new RV

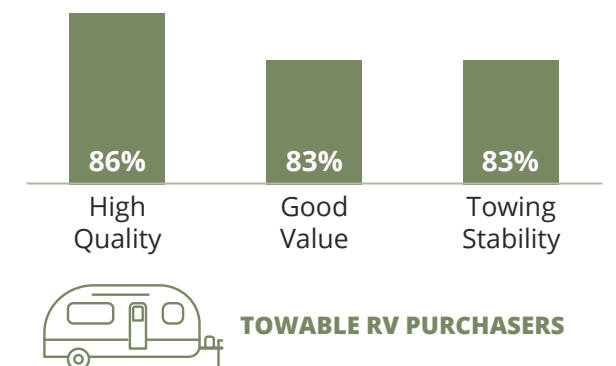
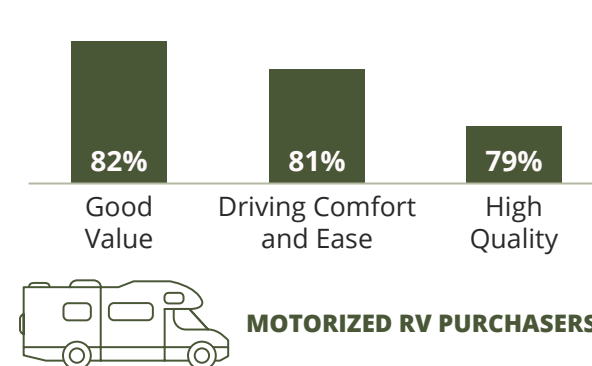
**39%** report they are most likely to purchase their next RV within the **NEXT 2 TO 5 YEARS**

**72%** of repeat RV purchasers report they have bought a new RV **EVERY 1 TO 5 YEARS**

**70%** report they are **DRIVING AN AVERAGE OF 5 OR MORE HOURS** from home on their RV trips

**71%** report they are **USING THEIR RV AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH**

## IMPORTANT PRODUCT FEATURES WHEN PURCHASING A NEW RV (TOP 3)



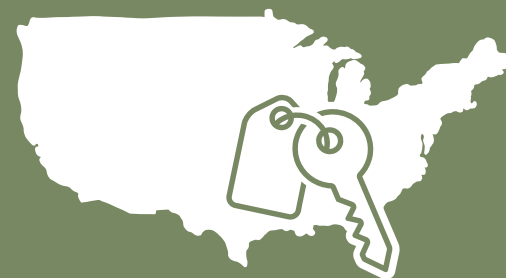
# THOR U.S. RV RENTAL STUDY

THOR Industries, Inc. conducted a U.S. RV Rental Study in December 2020 to survey self-identified first-time renters within the last three years. This sample included consumers who rented pre-COVID-19 (54%) and during COVID-19 (46%). These results are based on a total of n=706 surveys with a confidence level of 95% and an approximate associated margin of error of +/-3%.

## RESPONDENT DEFINITIONS

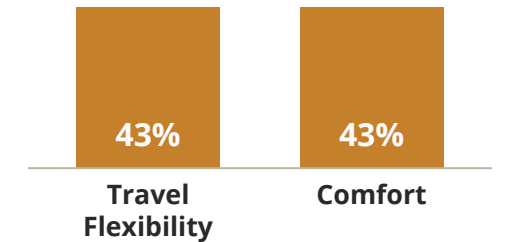
**Renters:** those who have rented an RV for the first time from 2017 to 2020 for a trip. 25% reported they rented a towable RV and 75% reported they rented a motorized RV.

**Potential Purchaser:** Renters who indicated they are likely to purchase an RV.



## TOP 2 MOTIVATORS FOR RENTERS

**96%** ★★★★★  
of Renters are **SATISFIED WITH THE RV RENTAL EXPERIENCE**



**73%** of Renters **WOULD LIKELY PURCHASE AN RV**



**51%** of Renters decided to rent instead of purchase **TO TRY BEFORE THEY BUY**

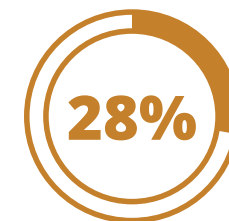


**80%** of Potential Purchasers are **LIKELY TO PURCHASE AN RV SIMILAR TO WHAT THEY RENTED**

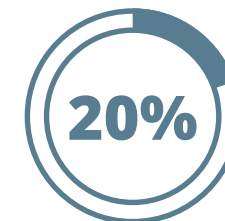


**66%** of Potential Purchasers **ARE MOST LIKELY TO BUY WITHIN THE NEXT 6-11 MONTHS**

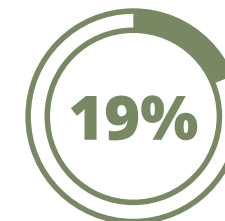
## TOP 3 RENTER DESTINATIONS




National Parks



Visit Family

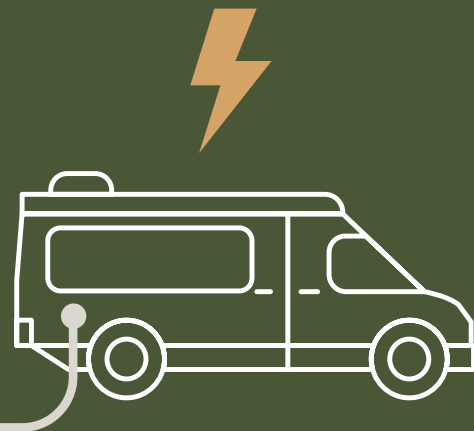


Cross Country

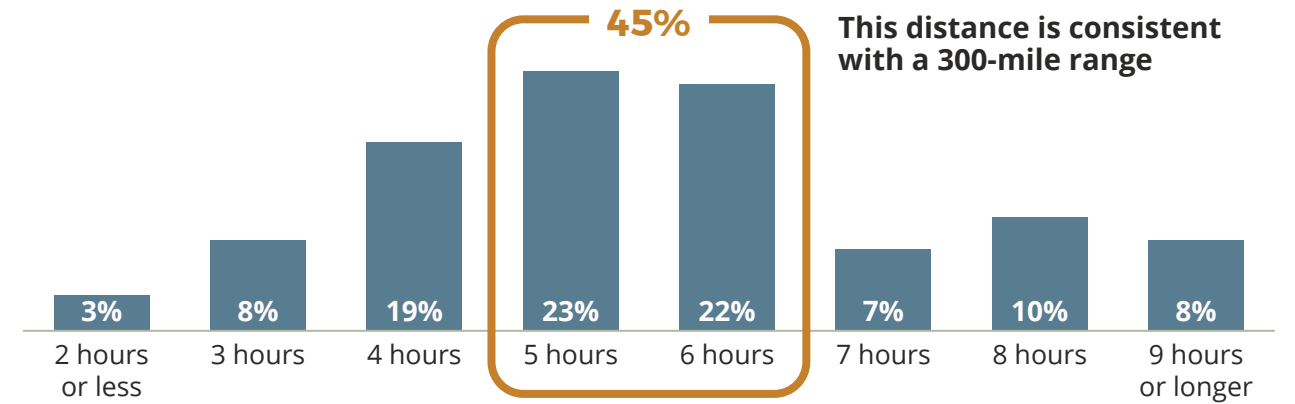
**51%**  of Renters unlikely to purchase an RV reported **THEY WOULD NOT USE IT ENOUGH TO JUSTIFY THE COST**

# THOR NORTH AMERICAN MOTORIZED ELECTRIC RV

THOR Industries, Inc. conducted a North American Motorized Electric RV Study in December 2021 to survey current and potential electric vehicle owners who are interested in purchasing a motorized electric RV. Respondents must have some level of RV experience (owned, rented, camped in, or borrowed an RV) within the last 10 years or currently own an RV. Results are based on a total of n=675 surveys with a confidence level of 95% and an associated margin error of +/-3.7%.



## EXPECTED DISTANCE TO DRIVE FROM CURRENT HOME BEFORE NEEDING TO CHARGE



These expectations align with traveling habits revealed in THOR's 2021 North American Path to Purchase Study—70% of New RV Purchasers report traveling an average of 5 hours or more from their home for RV trips.



Expected cost to charge the battery from empty to full:  
**34% REPORT**  
**\$41-\$60**



Expected recharge time:  
**31% REPORT**  
**45-59 MINUTES**  
*Suggests need for a level 3 charging station*



**44%** EXPECT A FAST-CHARGING (1-HOUR) STATION AT EACH INDIVIDUAL CAMPGROUND SPOT indicating established infrastructure is critical to consumer consideration



**47%** expect to use a motorized electric RV at least "ONCE A WEEK OR MORE OFTEN" or "ONCE EVERY 2 TO 3 WEEKS"



**70%** report the INCLUSION OF AN ONBOARD FUEL CELL FOR RECHARGING THE VEHICLE'S BATTERY POSITIVELY IMPACTS their purchase interest level, regardless of a small carbon impact



# THOR FY21 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT



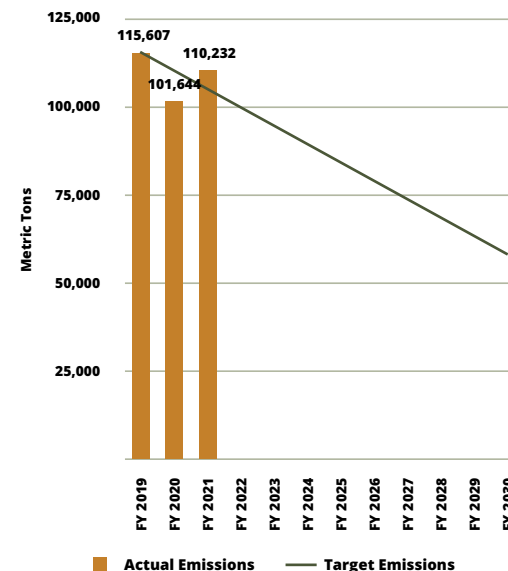
TO READ THE FULL FY21 SUSTAINABILITY REPORT, SCAN HERE

As the global leader in the RV industry, promoting sustainable environmental, social and governance practices is an integral part of THOR’s culture. In 2021, THOR took bold steps towards achieving 50% reduction in Scope 1 and Scope 2 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by 2030—the interim target of our carbon net-neutral goal by 2050. We are excited to announce our Erwin Hymer Group (EHG) achieved the significant milestone of carbon net-neutral manufacturing—a first for the RV industry. Innovation also continues to be a priority for THOR as we consider the future of our team members, operations and our ability to positively impact RV travel. And our commitment to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) continued to strengthen throughout fiscal 2021. The FY21 sustainability report highlights THOR’s initiatives to protect and explore the communities where we live, work and play. We look forward to the adventure ahead and commit to working with our stakeholders to impact sustainability opportunities in our future.

In June 2020, THOR took bold action to lead the fight against climate change, committing to be greenhouse gas (GHG) net-neutral in or before 2050, with the interim target of 50% reduction in GHG Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions in or before 2030 by signing “Business Ambition for 1.5° C.”

THOR achieved two significant milestones in our climate commitment in FY21. First, our European operating companies, known as Erwin Hymer Group, achieved carbon net-neutral manufacturing—an RV industry first. Additionally, we provided unprecedented transparency into our global efforts by voluntarily participating in Carbon Disclosure Project’s (CDP) Carbon & Climate Questionnaire in July 2021. CDP is a not-for-profit charity that operates the global disclosure system, allowing investors, companies, cities, states, and regions to manage their environmental impacts.

**CHART 1: THOR GLOBAL - ABSOLUTE GHG EMISSIONS FOR 50% REDUCTION IN SCOPE 1 AND SCOPE 2 BY 2030**



This chart summarizes absolute GHG emissions for fiscal year 2020 (August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020) and fiscal year 2021 (August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021) as compared to the adjusted fiscal year 2019 baseline for total THOR. THOR’s combined target for absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2 GHG emissions for fiscal year 2020 was 110,353 metric tons. Actual GHG emissions measured 101,644 metric tons, translating to 8,709 metric tons better than target.

Looking at fiscal year 2021 GHG emissions, the absolute emission target for the period was 105,098 metric tons. THOR’s total GHG emissions for fiscal 2021 totaled 110,232, translating to 5,135 metric tons above goal. It is noteworthy that while not achieving the reduction target for fiscal year 2021, actual emissions were below the fiscal 2019 baseline by 5,375 metric tons.

By far, the largest contributor to THOR’s climate emissions is electricity consumption. We are pursuing a multi-pronged approach to 1) engage with electricity providers to understand their respective timeline for conversion to renewable energy from fossil fuels, 2) invest internally in renewable energy self-generation, and 3) take actions to reduce energy intensity.

To compliment the actions of our electric suppliers to reduce their dependency on energy derived from fossil fuels, to-date THOR has committed to invest more than \$8,622,000 in multiple Solar Photovoltaic Systems capable of generating an excess of 7,615 MWH, with the first phase having gone live in late 2020. Additionally, THOR recently invested more than \$1,279,000 to reduce the energy intensity of our operations. These actions represent annual savings of an estimated 10,815 MWH of electricity.

**\$8.6M**

INVESTED FOR SOLAR POWER GENERATION

**\$9.9M**

INVESTED TO IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SOLAR POWER GENERATION



Innovation is a key opportunity in our sustainability journey. Traditionally, our industry has focused on product-related innovation that is designed to make RVs more enjoyable for users. However, innovation at THOR is viewed much differently. While our companies continue to drive market-leading innovations on their products, THOR recognizes that long-term innovation strategies—which affect the global enterprise and the industry—are essential to deliver on the initiatives of today to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Our sustainability strategy rests heavily upon our innovation strategy.

THOR's eMobility efforts are defining the global electric RV space. This journey was aided by THOR's strategic acquisition of Erwin Hymer Group (EHG), which created a number of synergistic opportunities that relate to our sustainability profile. In 2018, a year before THOR acquired EHG, EHG initiated a project with a key automotive supplier and



partner, ZF Friedrichshafen AG, to create an electric-powered towable RV, which would function with an electric tow vehicle in a manner to significantly minimize energy consumption. This seemingly insurmountable challenge was met and put on full display when Dethleffs, one of EHG's operating companies, displayed its innovation in the E.HOME Caravan Alps Challenge. THOR has continued to enhance this innovation with the creation of two high-voltage electric RV concepts: a high-voltage towable electric chassis platform and a high-voltage, multi-fuel cell motorized electric chassis platform. These have created a foundation on which each of our operating companies can build upon and innovate.



At THOR, we believe in doing business the right way. We act with integrity and always comply with the law, provide team members with a fair and safe work environment, and deal fairly with members of the public (including our customers, investors and competitors).

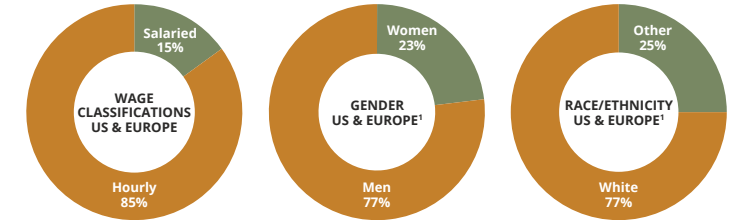
**SAFETY**

Our focus on the health and safety of our team members has been and remains our top priority. Our goals with incident rates is not just reduction but prevention. Our companies have bolstered site-specific safety plans and rely on regular, effective communication and transparent reporting to promote prevention and facilitate progress. We are confident that our health and safety programs will drive improvement.

We strive for an inclusive culture and diverse workforce reflective of the communities in which our companies are located. We believe attracting and retaining talented and diverse team members enables us to be more innovative, responsive to consumer needs, and

support strong sustained performance and growth. In fiscal year 2021, along with executive leadership training and development, we took progressive action to strengthen our inclusive culture and strategically recruit diverse talent.

**200%**  
INCREASE IN DIVERSE CORPORATE TEAM MEMBERS BASED ON EEO STATS

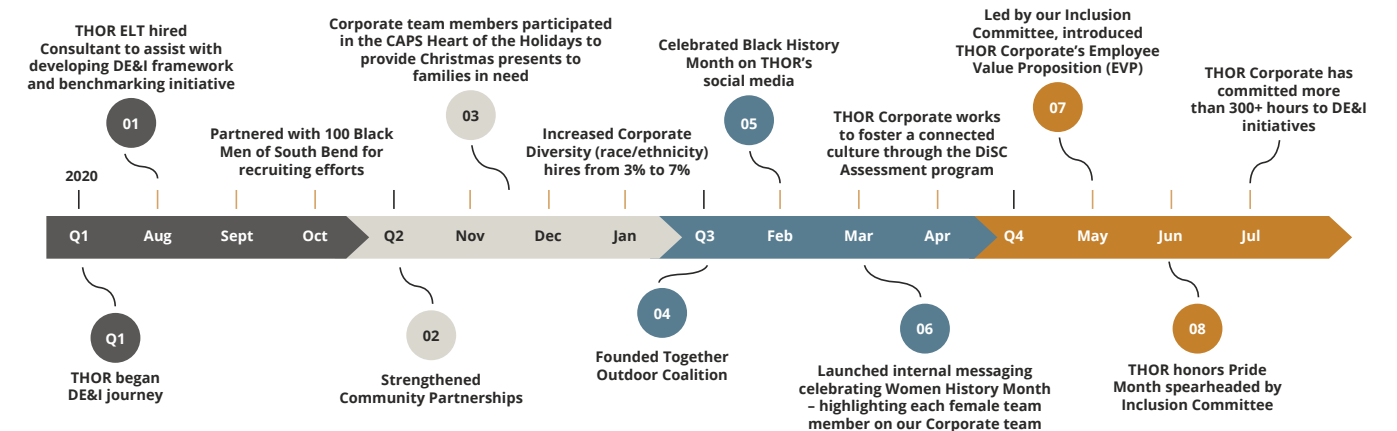


Chandria Harris

Seeking best practices and structural alignment as we began a robust journey to become a more inclusive, diverse and equitable company, THOR engaged Chandria Harris as our Chief People and Inclusion Consultant in August 2020. In this role, guidance and strategies are provided to the THOR family of companies.

“Creating a truly inclusive environment that celebrates and empowers differences is essential to THOR. The RV industry has a long history of being identified with a certain race and a specific age group. Changing those stereotypes requires intention. We love this journey, feel good about the first steps we have taken, and look forward

to continuing to open our industry to everyone. With our team members at our companies and with the users of our RVs, we are passionate about leading this change in our industry. Chandria has fit right in with our team and been an invaluable resource to us as we drive this important change.”  
— Bob Martin, President & CEO



# ADVENTURE. ELECTRIFIED.



For over 40 years, THOR has been helping families connect with nature and one another. We've enabled innumerable journeys and adventures, widened eyes and helped create lifelong memories. As testament to our long-term commitment to leading global RV innovation, we're leading another exhilarating adventure—exploring the undiscovered territory of the future. THOR's long-established culture of innovation uniquely positions us to lead the way to create products which deliver the experience today's owners seek and tomorrow's RVers dream of—from design and safety to comfort and technology.



**TO READ MORE  
ABOUT INNOVAION AT  
THOR, SCAN HERE**

**THOR'S VISION OF THE FUTURE** is centered on providing an exceptional user experience. Our innovation is focused on creating products which are intuitive, easy to use and meet the next generation's expectations with sustainability in mind to help ensure natural lands and resources will be available for generations to come.



To achieve these ambitious goals, we've created and continue to nurture an innovation ecosystem which includes respected experts within THOR, as well as global-leading innovation partners. Like bees cross-pollinating a garden, the diverse members of this ecosystem share insights and ideas. Cultivated by collective expertise, these thoughts blossom into new products, enhancements and creative ways to elevate the user experience.

At the center of this ecosystem are the innovation teams at the THOR family of companies. Across the globe, teams at our 20+ operating companies are focused on improving products and user experience. In addition, the teams partner with engineers at THOR's corporate innovation incubators to bring industry-leading innovation to life.

Our ever-growing ecosystem even includes engagement with state and federal government leaders, who oversee many beloved RV destinations across the United States. THOR is partnering to help influence the creation of necessary infrastructure to support the biggest innovation on the horizon — the electrified RV.





# THOR VISION VEHICLE

Built on THOR's exclusive motorized platform, the THOR Vision Vehicle is powered by a high-voltage battery pack and an integrated fuel cell. RVs built with this design will have a targeted range of 300 miles. The innovative power system and enhanced solar capability offer extended off-grid camping capability. The THOR Vision Vehicle also comes equipped with digital tools to assist in every aspect of the electric RV experience.



**WATCH THE THOR VISION VEHICLE VIDEO**



# ESTREAM TRAVEL TRAILER

Built on THOR's exclusive platform, the eStream features a high-voltage, electric drivetrain which powers the trailer's wheels and thus reduces the tow vehicle's fuel or energy consumption. The electric drivetrain can also remotely park the RV without the tow vehicle—eliminating the need to back into a campsite. The battery pack also makes it an excellent off-grid vehicle. The eStream is built with a digital first approach to enable a world-class customer experience.



**WATCH THE ESTREAM TRAVEL TRAILER VIDEO**





# FIND YOUR PERFECT RV

Learn more about your options and the different types of RVs available.



The THOR family of companies is excited to debut a wide variety of new RV models this year—everything from sleek and nimble Class B camper vans to extra spacious Super Class C RVs to travel trailers with elevated designs and amenities.

With so many RV types available, there is definitely something for everyone. But don't let the choices overwhelm you. We're here to help you sort through them all, figure out your needs and wants, and find the RV of your dreams.

## Airstream

## INTERSTATE X



Designed for the open road and beyond, the Interstate 24X exudes Airstream quality and design with its aggressive stance, extreme comfort, abundant space, cutting-edge amenities, and best-in-class safety and performance. Load up, head out, and take your adventures to the next level.



*Venture far off the highway with 6 all-terrain tires, 4x4 capabilities, and rugged body protection.*



*Dark gray marine-grade Simtex-carbon seating is perfectly complemented by red accents throughout.*



*The living space offers convertible seating for 6 people and sleeping space for 2, with multiple configurations.*

## Airstream

## POTTERY BARN • SPECIAL EDITION •

Comfortable, connected, and capable of letting you travel anywhere, all while feeling at home. A 28-foot travel trailer designed in partnership between two iconic brands, featuring custom furniture based on best-selling Pottery Barn designs and tailor-made storage solutions.



*Featuring custom furniture, tailor-made storage solutions, and a timeless design aesthetic, the interior sets a new standard for a well-traveled life.*



*Roll out the awning, set up the Indio Outdoor Folding Table and Armchair Set, and serve up an al fresco meal on a 16-piece Mason Stoneware Dinnerware Set.*



*A beautiful, functional kitchen comes to life with a black pull-down faucet, a stainless steel flat apron sink, and a versatile cutting board sink cover.*



**Cruiser RV**

**SHADOW  
CRUISER**

Shadow Cruiser models feature couples' coaches to bunkhouse floorplans, high-quality details like residential finishes and features, and Underbed Flex Space to use as storage or a cozy pet palace. Built light, it's easy to tow and comes with a heated and enclosed underbelly that gives you the flexibility to camp in a wide range of temperatures. As one of the most affordable models, its value is unmatched.



Featuring our new Verona décor, bringing a fresh new look to the interior. The models will have a bright, neutral pallet with textured woodgrains.



Beautifully designed bedroom with king bed slide system and underbed flex space for use as Cruise-Thru storage or a cozy pet palace.



This great bonus storage in the floor of the front pass-through compartment provides more storage for all your needs.



**Dutchmen**

**VOLTAGE**

Year after year, the Dutchmen Voltage fifth wheel toy hauler continues to impress, winning award after award. Once you step inside you will see why it was awarded the prestigious 2022 Toy Hauler of the Year by RV News and Must-See RV by RV Business.



Escape to comfort in the large bedroom offering a king-size bed and large wardrobe.



The gourmet kitchen offers an abundance of counter space and cabinets, so there's room for all your must-haves.



The Zero-G Ramp door allows easy access to the garage with little to no effort and the patio is perfect for entertaining.

**DRV**

**FULLHOUSE**

DRV Luxury Suites is a name synonymous with ultimate luxury in full-time, four-season fifth wheel RVing. The Full House takes the typical toy hauler garage to the next level. Every model comes standard with custom metal cabinetry, a 50" TV, a portable metal folding table, and diamond plate accents throughout. You can also add electric drop-down beds, jack knife sofas, and a three-season patio enclosure.



The LX455 features a 12-foot garage, accommodating the larger toys without compromising on full time amenities.



Featured in the LX455 is a full residential kitchen, large entertainment center with opposing extra-long theater seating to accommodate guests.



The completely finished heated and cooled garage means that you have a large open space with endless opportunities to fill it to suit your lifestyle.

**Entegra Coach**

**ACCOLADE XL**

Built on a Freightliner® S2RV chassis, the Accolade XL Super C is equipped with the E-Z Drive™ Premier package for a superior ride and handling experience that travelers have come to expect from Entegra Coach. Luxurious features inside and out, combined with premium construction and materials, make for a world-class experience.



Master the road with the Accolade XL's 9 in. Sony® infotainment center with Apple CarPlay® and Android Auto™.



Let the light in with the automotive-bonded panoramic window with power shade in the Accolade XL's one-piece, seamless front cap.



With hand-laid heated porcelain tile floors and solid hardwood cabinetry throughout, every detail of the Accolade XL screams luxury and quality.



**Heartland**

**LANDMARK**

Introducing the Scottsdale by Landmark featuring beautiful two-toned cabinetry and a unique floor plan that focuses on the bedroom and bathroom layout. This floor plan adds more space in the bedroom by featuring a slide-in-slide king bed, while a third slide-out on the door side provides both hanging and drawer storage. The kitchen in this floor plan includes a 54-inch unimpeded island.



*New floor plan features three slide outs in the bedroom, front windshield with a seating area and dressers, and solar package.*



*Landmark's beautifully designed cabinetry features a two-toned true maple hardwood with high-end hardware.*



*New 2023 Landmarks will come standard with RV Halo, a new AI-enable voice assistant by Winegard.*

**Highland Ridge RV**



Features such as a 100-inch wide body design, ACCU-Slide™ 4-point compression and 42-inch main slides, a PVC roofing membrane, and skirted drop frame offer spacious living and construction you can feel confident in. Comes standard with the new TravelLINK™ system, as well as LevelLoc™—our four- or six-point automatic leveling with JT's Strong Arms®.



*In the kitchen, a freestanding oven with a four-burner range, residential microwave and large refrigerator help keep every appetite satisfied. (Featured: 395BHS)*



*With its huge medicine cabinet and one-piece fiberglass shower, the master bathroom flows seamlessly into the master bedroom in this one-of-a-kind 395BHS layout.*



*ACCU-SLIDE™ 42-inch-deep slides meet flush with the residential vinyl flooring and open up this luxury fifth wheel's living space. (Featured: 395BHS)*



**Jayco**



Towable by most mid-size tow vehicles, the Jay Feather Micro is the lightest travel trailer from Jayco—weighing in with a GVWR of 5,750 pounds. The 199MBS has an overall length of 23-feet 2-inches and sleeps up to 8 people with the double-overdouble bunks, convertible dinette, and Murphy bed. The 2022 interior and exterior design upgrades give this lineup a sharp modern look to match its ease of use.



*A huge U-dinette with four-inch, high-density cushions and a kitchen complete with a microwave and three-burner recessed cooktop, make prepping and sharing a meal comfortable and easy. (Featured: 199MBS)*



*In addition to standard American-made Goodyear® tires, each Jay Feather Micro wheel well is built with galvanized-steel for added resistance against road debris and damage.*



*Modern Farmhouse interior design amplify the homey feel of this Jay Feather kitchen. New for 2022, plank-style Designer Carefree vinyl flooring and decorative wallboards add to the residential styling. (Featured: 199MBS)*

**Keystone**

**SPRINTER**

Celebrating its 25th anniversary, Sprinter has joined three other Keystone brands as a top 10 fifth wheel. These wide-body models offer more living and storage space, and features that support its "Camping Made Easy" promise.



*Bunk room with three bunks, six dresser drawers and three cargo storage areas.*



*Sprinter's wide-body design creates more living and storage space, as well as hallways and lavatories that are easier to navigate.*



*The 31TB offers a camp kitchen with refrigerator and separate beverage center.*



**KZ ESCAPE**

This RV is built for adventure and fun! The front “L”-shaped lounge provides area to stretch out and put your feet on the storage ottoman, or add a table for eating and games. The rear of the Escape E18 boasts space, sleeping, and storage. Lower the power bed, open the hatch, and close the screen to bring the outdoors inside on a cool evening!



The storage space in the rear allows for a dinette, storage, or extra bed.



Storing kayaks or bikes is ideal for making this Ultra Lightweight travel trailer adventure-ready.



Stretch out in this king-size bed or enjoy two twin beds and a nightstand in this convertible space.



**Starcraft SUPER LITE MAXX**

The Super Lite Maxx travel trailer maxes out on quality features, but not on weight. Residential flooring that’s bolted through the frame, a molded front cap with LED lighting and a low-maintenance PVC roofing membrane are just a few of the standards that give you the confidence to simply getaway.



Kick back and watch your favorite movie on the 32-inch LED TV with a built-in soundbar, or gather around for a hearty meal in the versatile main living area. (Featured: 16FBS)



Hardwood cabinet doors, seamless, pressed-membrane countertops, a skylight with roof vent and LED lighting are just a few of the smaller touches that go a long way towards making you feel at home. (Featured: 16FBS)



Residential vinyl flooring and furniture throughout make this travel trailer extra kid and pet-friendly. A stainless steel sink, convection microwave and range with a hood help keep everyone well fed. (Featured: 16FBS)

**Redwood**



Since RVDA lifted the maximum square footage, the luxury fifth wheel market has trended towards spacious models. RW4200FL meets the market demand but also takes the lead by offering the best value for retail customers.



Maximized kitchen space for the best storage and countertop efficiency in the industry.



Superior bedroom space providing comfort and unmatched drawer storage.



Redwood’s 4200FL’s bathroom gives you the comfort and elegance you have earned.

**Thor Motor Coach MAGNITUDE**



Magnitude offers the ultimate outdoor experience with standard 4WD and diesel power. An optional high-capacity solar package and WIFI/LTE connectivity provide the perfect boondock destination.



An outside kitchen area with included refrigerator and sink.



All controls for radio functions and 4WD are within easy reach.



Modern interior colors and fabrics with hardwood cabinets.





**Thor Motor Coach**

**TELLARO**

Create sustainable memories with a Class B van offering the Reliable Lite lithium package. The Tellaro offers four distinctive floor plan layouts, including a model with a pop-top sleeping area.



Getting off-grid can be sustainable with the Reliable Lithium power pack.



High gloss, European cabinets provide an airy feel to the kitchen area.



The Thule carrier offers space for two adult bikes.

**Tiffin Motorhomes**

**ALLEGRO BAY**

The Allegro Bay has returned in a whole new way: Tiffin's First Super C. Built on a Freightliner Custom Chassis S2RV Cab Chassis, it boasts many features and amenities that allow it to be ready for adventure, including AGM extended cycle house batteries, 150 gallon fresh water tank, and TracTech full time no spin differential.



38 AB living area with optional dinette with computer workstation shown.



38 AB kitchen shown with the expand-an-island extended.



38 AB driver-side living area with optional theater seating shown.



**Vanleigh**

**BEACON**

All fifth wheels are towed, but few pull heartstrings like Vanleigh's Beacon models. From its full body paint and solid construction, to its handcrafted cabinetry and spacious room for all the amenities, the Beacon truly shines as America's most upscale choice for traveling in style. 41LKB includes two electric fireplaces, a bath and a half, a large primary bedroom, and Spyder Multi-Plex System.



Vanleigh kitchens are a traveling chef's dream with the stainless steel Insignia range, farmhouse sink, LG residential refrigerator, and soft close cabinetry.



Vanleigh's exclusive style of Franklin Corporation furniture provides the perfect place to relax while watching your LG smart TV.



The open layout of the kitchen and living area in the 41LKB make it ideal for entertaining guests.

**Venture**

**SPORTTREK**  
TOURING EDITION  
BY VENTURE RV

The SportTrek Touring STT343VIB offers thoughtful new features and elegant design elements that provide comfort for everyone. The bunkhouse features a flex room that allows convertible space: desk, king bed, storage space, and pet palace.



The award-winning bunk house converts from four bunk beds to a king-size bed with two bunks beds above.



Complete your work or homework on the go by raising/hinging the upper bunk bed and using the spacious desk below.



Enjoy amenities from home with the modern farmhouse cabinetry and spacious kitchen.

# THOR PARTNERSHIPS





# NATIONAL FOREST FOUNDATION

Our national forests and grasslands cover over eight percent of the surface area of the United States, and they're home to virtually every form of outdoor recreation. In 2019, THOR established a multi-year partnership with the National Forest Foundation (NFF) to provide unrestricted funds in support of the NFF's mission to long-term vitality, sustainability and preservation. Additionally, in

2020, THOR expanded upon this partnership by committing to plant half a million new trees in national forests by 2025. THOR's commitment of 500,000 trees over five years will support rebuilding of public lands that help capture greenhouse gasses (GHG), filter pollutants and release life-giving oxygen, all while providing a retreat for outdoor newcomers and enthusiasts.



*"Across the THOR family of companies, our purpose is to connect people with nature, and families with each other. We believe the National Forest System offers unrivaled accessibility and an incredible assortment of activities and outdoor exploration options that are impactful and meaningful for the entire outdoor community. We are honored to support the work of the NFF and are thrilled to partner to improve forest health and American's outdoor experiences."*

— Bob Martin, President and CEO



# GIRL SCOUTS

THOR has entered a two-year partnership with Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA), the preeminent leadership development organization for girls grades K-12. The partnership underscores THOR's continued commitment to promoting inclusivity in the outdoors. As part of the commitment, THOR is the sponsor of GSUSA's largest and most popular outdoor event, Girl Scouts Love State Parks. The annual event is hosted in nearly 500 state parks across all 50 states and Puerto Rico. As part of the sponsorship, Girl Scouts is incorporating THOR's own sustainability program, Pick Up America, into its park stewardship efforts. Since the launch of Pick Up America in 2019, participants have pledged to remove 247 tons of trash from public lands, and this partnership with GSUSA adds an additional nine tons to the pledge, bringing the total to 256 tons.



*"We are extremely proud to be working with Girl Scouts and look forward to supporting their legacy of providing girls with outdoor experiences that build courageous, confident leaders, and make the world a better place. Girl Scouts Love State Parks is a natural fit for THOR, and a great opportunity to connect people with nature, and families with each other, while promoting stewardship in state parks across the country."*

— Todd Woelfer, SVP and COO





# FIRST DESCENTS

For those living with cancer, connecting to nature and experiencing adventure has been proven to support treatment and influence positive outcomes. One such example is First Descents' Prescribe Adventure campaign, which engages healthcare professionals to empower young adults to connect with their peers through community and adventure. The organization's research shows that its programming improves survivorship, and is reaching young adults

earlier in their treatment processes through a growing network of more than 800 healthcare professionals at more than 400 medical centers. THOR provides RVs and additional support to help enable First Descents to provide these life-changing, outdoor adventures. Participants of First Descents get to experience free outdoor adventure programs, empowering them to climb, paddle and surf beyond their diagnosis, reclaim their lives and connect with others.

*"We're honored to support the work of First Descents. Together, over the past few years, we've built program locations from scratch by utilizing state-of-the-art RVs and helped extend the healing power of adventure to more young adults coping with cancer."*

*— Bob Martin, President and CEO*



# PICK UP AMERICA



Pick Up America, THOR's national sustainability program, encourages people to keep public lands clean by pledging to remove trash from outdoor spaces. 247 tons of trash have been pledged to be removed from public lands since the program launched in 2019, including public lands in the communities where we live, work and play.

*"Over the past few years, it has been incredible to see the increased excitement around RVing and getting outdoors. We also understand that this increase can put pressure on our public lands. Through the Pick Up America program, it is our mission to provide an easy way for campers and RVers to do our part in keeping these lands clean and healthy for years to come."*

*— Todd Woelfer, SVP and COO*

# TOGETHER OUTDOORS



THOR partnered with the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable (ORR) to establish and fund the Together Outdoors Coalition, which helps ensure everyone feels welcome in all facets of outdoor recreation activities. Raising awareness to the equity and inclusion issues in the outdoor space is a priority for THOR, as we believe diversity is a mainspring for sustainable development. As a part of the governing council for this initiative, THOR provides direction to the coalition's mission and values, program design, communications, fundraising, partnerships, and access.

*"We have listened and heard many of the deep and long-running concerns and obstacles underrepresented groups face when pursuing outdoor adventure. Enjoying and appreciating nature is important for health and mental well-being and should be welcoming places for everyone. THOR is committed to helping advance outdoor equity and inclusion, so all feel welcome to 'Go Everywhere and Stay Anywhere.'" — Bob Martin, President and CEO*

# MEET OUR 2022 THOR AMBASSADORS

THOR has selected 10 real RVers to be Ambassadors for 2022. These individuals are working with THOR to support two key initiatives: New RVers and RV Responsibly. Each Ambassador truly embodies THOR's core purpose of connecting people with nature and one another. They all have the talents, skills and expertise to help bring more awareness to the RV space and to show people the many joys and benefits of RV travel.



**Alison & Jason Takacs**

Alison and Jason love traveling to and photographing the most scenic places that

America has to offer. The Takacs, along with their two boys Preston and Grayson, have been RVing for six years in their Jayco Jay Flight travel trailer.

— @alison.takacs & @jason\_takacs



**Brandy & Matt Gleason**

Brandy and Matt are avid campers and outdoor adventurers.

They have been RVing for over 25 years and can't get enough of the lifestyle. You can find them towing their Heartland Sundance travel trailer all over the country in search of the perfect campsite.

— @gleason\_family\_adventure



**Andy & Kris Murphy**

Andy and Kristen have been RVing full-time in their Keystone Fuzion toy hauler since June 2018. They, along with their two boys

and a brand new baby, jumped into the lifestyle hoping to travel, work remotely and give their kids the education of a lifetime.

— @wherewildonesroom



**Ben & Christina McMillan**

Ben and Christina have been living full-time in their Jayco Jay Feather travel trailer since

2017. RV living has given them the freedom to travel anywhere and be entirely self-sufficient, especially when it comes to boondocking.

— @themcmillanexpress



**Karen Blue**

Karen, along with her husband Lenny and their daughter Lilya, have been traveling full-time in their 2019

Airstream Flying Cloud for almost four years. Along the way, they also added an adorable dog and a colorful parrot to their full-time RV family.

— @cedarandsilver



**Dustin & Sarah Bauer**

Dustin and Sarah have been traveling in their Tiffin Wayfarer Class C since June 2020

and have loved every minute of it. The best part about having an RV is how easily they can pack up their four dogs and all of their adventure gear and be on the road at a moment's notice.

— @lovinthetiffin



**Stacey Powers**

Stacey is a solo female who lives, works and travels full-time in her Airstream Flying Cloud travel trailer. She hit the road in May 2017

with the hopes of finding as many surf spots as possible. Stacey's favorite thing about RV living is the community and how incredibly supportive everyone is.

— @tincanadventure



**Michael & Tiffany Dunagan**

Michael and Tiffany were swimming in their pool one day when they decided to sell it all and try

out the RV life. After many hours of researching and planning, they bought a Tiffin Allegro Open Road Class A and never looked back.

— @rvdiem



**Gabe & Rocio Rivero**

Gabe and Rocio, along with their two dogs Wilson and Journey, make up the Our Mixed Journey crew. They have been touring the country in their Thor Motor Coach Sequence camper van—affectionately named Vinnie—for four years and love everything about RV life.

— @ourmixedjourney



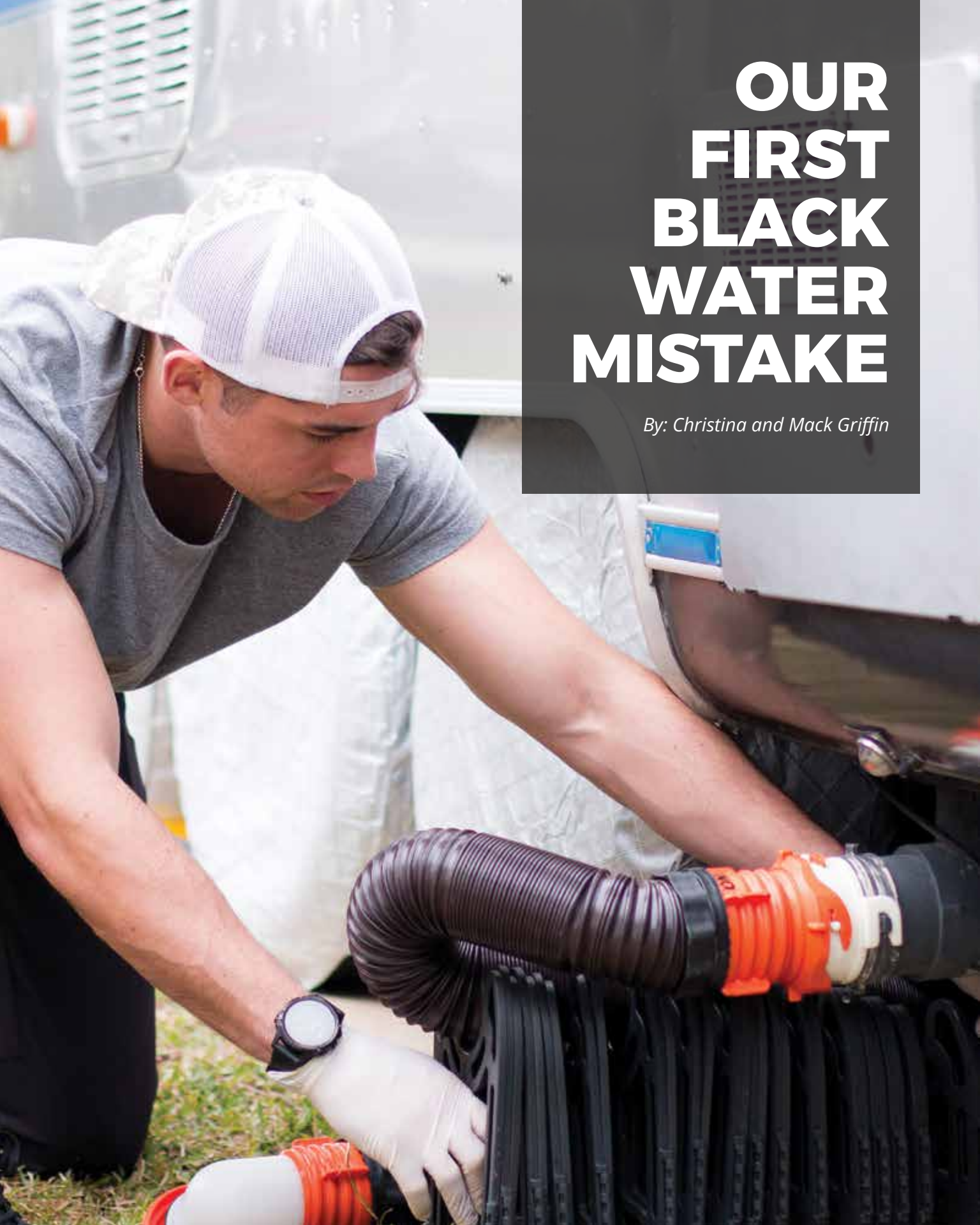
**Nate & Chelsea Day**

Nate and Chelsea, along with their four boys, have been traveling in their Highland Ridge Highlander fifth wheel since 2018. The Day family loves to boondock, hike, hunt, and kayak, and have seen a ton of national parks and historic sites through their travels.

— @somedayilllearn

# OUR FIRST BLACK WATER MISTAKE

By: Christina and Mack Griffin



## OUR STORY BEGINS WHEN THE SEWAGE HIT MACK'S SHOES.

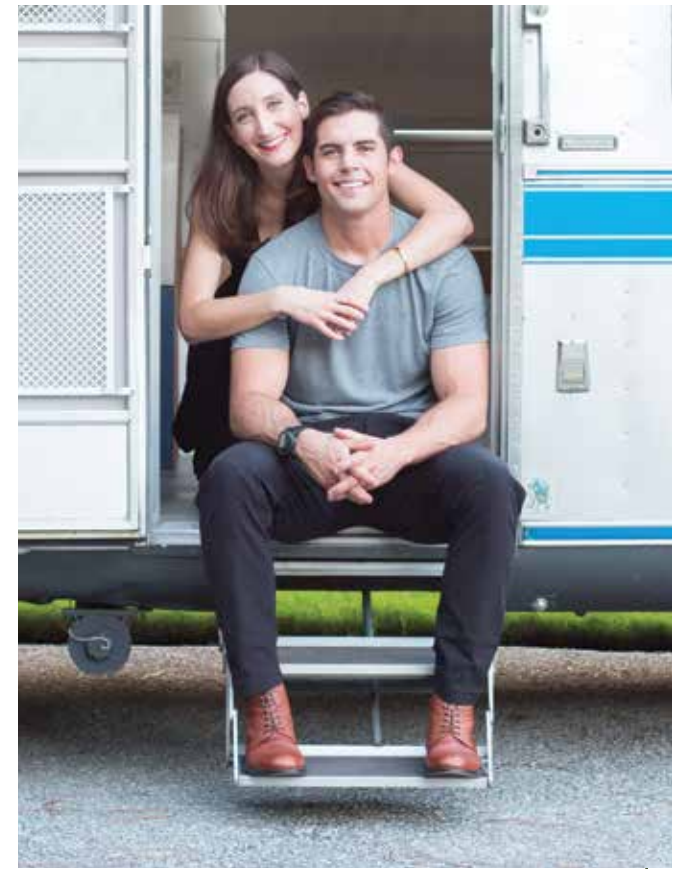
But let's back up so you can truly grasp the scope of that moment. We are Mack and Christina, a married Millennial couple, who went all in (an "entire life savings" kind of all in) to move into an RV on November 1, 2018. Neither of us had ever spent one night in an RV park until that first night. So, why did we do it?

Moving into 300 square feet is not the traditional decision most married couples in their late 20's make. But for us, it meant consistency. Mack serves in the military, which enables us to move often. Our motivation to live in our RV full-time is the fact that we can hook it up to Mack's truck and just go—and still be in our home. Since we move so much, home has always been wherever we are together; but now, we have a physical space that makes moving a little easier.

So, back to day number one. You know how the first time you do something, you try hard to make it look like you've done it before? Us, too. We arrived at the RV park and went inside the office to get the rundown on this new life we were about to "roll" into. We received our spot assignment, signed on the dotted line and popped back into the truck.

It was time to back our 34-foot RV into the spot and line it up just right. (Deep breath.) But don't leave tires marks in the grass. (Deep breath.) Crank the wheel right—ahhh, a little left—okay straight back. We're in. I sighed a big breath of relief. So far, so good!

Up next was water and the toilet. While I captured our new home through my latest Instagram preset, Mack was literally doing the dirty work. Although he'd never set up plumbing before, he examined the hose, figuring out its connectivity



*We didn't know what life would look like as full-time RVers, but it's not only doable—it's worth every minute.*

and assuming that the tanks were emptied upon the exchange of ownership. Do you see where this is going?

As Mack removed the tank cover, just before he could attach the hose and click it in place, the sludge rush of 2018 began. And by sludge, we mean ... well, you know. And it was coming out alarmingly fast. This sludge had been stored in that black tank during our Florida summer for three months. Can you imagine the nuclear smell that Mack was enduring as it came in contact with his tennis shoes and spilled onto the concrete of our first ever campsite spot? The smell stopped us in our tracks, petrified. We'd instantly rained on the parade of our new neighbors and the RV park as a whole, and it became crystal clear to everyone that we were newbies.



Connect THIS hose first. I tell you this in hopes you won't lose your favorite tennis shoes during your RV set up.

Amongst my gagging and the realization that Mack's tennis shoes should be burned and then buried, we had to come clean with the RV park owner that we had never done this before. Any of it. Mack approached him and explained the situation. He looked Mack dead in the eyes and asked, "Are there any solids?"

How Mack didn't laugh, I don't know. But since there were no "solids," it was an oddly calm

exchange. Mack simply hosed off the concrete, and thanks to some strong Gulf Coast winds, we were spared the stench for much longer.

As all of this occurred, I just plugged my nose, gagged and kept saying, "Oh my gosh!" Which I don't remember, but Mack assures me I was screaming it. Clearly, I was a huge help.

Ensure that the hose properly connects to your RV output for sewage. And wear gloves, always. The RV sewage set-up is quick and easy after a time or two. If we can figure it out, anyone can.

And, if you do make a mistake, take it in stride. It's a learning experience you'll laugh about some day, and you'll have countless other firsts to celebrate. Never forget—we were all newbies once!



## WE BOTH LEARNED A LOT THAT DAY, AND MACK CAME UP WITH THREE TIPS FOR SETTING UP YOUR SEWAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME:

### 1 Disposable gloves are your best friend.

This doesn't take too much explaining because, well, you're dealing with sewage. And in the case of any slight spillage, you won't feel like you need to pumice stone your hands clean. Rule of thumb, always stock up on disposable gloves.

### 2 Hook up your sewage hose to the ground.

It's imperative that you connect your sewage hose into the ground before you start the process of connecting it to your RV sewage pipe. Locate the sewage port at your RV site, pop off the top, and seat the adaptor on your hose into the sewage port. Ensure the connection is secure to avoid any mishaps. Once that's complete, you're ready to catch any residual sludge that might be residing in your black tank. Do as we say, not as we do: if we had hooked up our sewage hose first, we could have caught the mess in the hose leading it to the sewer. Instead, it landed on Mack's shoes. See Mack smiling in that photo? It's because he learned from his mistake, and now you don't have to make the same one.

### 3 Flush and close your tank before you leave.

Somehow, our black tank wasn't fully empty and it was open when we popped the cover to connect the sewage hose. This is the only explanation for the speed at which our first set-up spiraled into a smelly debacle. If you're like us, even though your RV is new to you, it may still show signs of previous use.

Here's how to flush your tanks completely. First, make sure they're empty. Use your plumbing

system to actuate the process of flushing your tanks. For us, this involves hitting a switch to open and another to close, on both tanks. We always do the black first, so the grey water will flush the line after the sewage is drained. Next, use an auxiliary water hose to hook into the city water spigot and then screw the other end into the spigot above your tanks. Make sure your black tank is open and turn on the city water. This will flood your tank, cleaning it completely. Run the water for several minutes to ensure it's free of any debris or extraneous material that may be sitting in the tank and line. Once complete, be sure to close your tank. Then, disconnect the water hose from both the city water source and your tank. We choose to use a hose exclusively for flushing tanks so we don't cross-contaminate our drinking water with the cleaning water.

For an extra measure of caution, hit your black tank switch to the closed position before you start set-up at your new location. By flushing your tanks and closing them before you depart, the hope is that when you reach your next destination, your tank is clean and therefore won't spill upon re-connecting your sewer line.

#### FEATURED RV

**AIRSTREAM**

**EXCELLA TRAVEL TRAILER**



# CARING FOR ANIMALS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

FOR ANYONE WHO IS LIVING IN AN RV WITH PETS, OR IS EVEN CONSIDERING TAKING A TRIP WITH THEIR FURRY FRIENDS, HERE ARE SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN-MIND WHEN TRAVELING WITH PETS:

**1 Know where the nearest 24-hour emergency clinics are located.** Most major cities have at least one, and smaller towns are starting to get 24-hour clinics. You won't have your family veterinarian with you on the road, so it's vital to know where these clinics are in case something comes up.

**2 Educate yourself about pet first aid.** The American Red Cross offers a great 35-minute online course for dog and cat first aid and what to do in case of an emergency. We also recommend downloading the ASPCA's Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) app. This

will give you a list of common toxic substances and plants to avoid, along with any concerning symptoms to watch for.

**3 Think about climate control.** If you ever plan to leave your pets in the RV, then make sure you maintain a reliable, climate-controlled environment while you're gone. This means AC in warmer weather and heat in colder weather. For our rig, we use an electrical management system (EMS) to protect from power surges. The EMS should automatically reboot and restore power if there is a surge.

**4 Keep some basic medications on-hand.** We've included a list of some common over-the-counter medications to keep on-hand. Be sure to always check with a vet before giving your pet any of the following:

- Diphenhydramine 25mg tablets (generic Benadryl with no other active ingredients) is good for itchy skin, allergic reactions and has mild anti-nausea properties.
- Meclizine 25mg tablets (generic Dramamine with no other active ingredients) is a good motion sickness medication.
- Joint supplements (fish oil or Dasuquin) can help pets stay active and healthy, but they need to be given regularly and on a longer-term basis (they are not as effective on an as-needed basis).

**5 Get your pets vaccinated.** Before you leave, make sure your pets are up to date on all vaccinations. Be sure to tell your vet where you are traveling to and any activities you plan to do with your pet so they can individualize and customize treatment. For example, if you are traveling to an area with a lot of farmland or plan to visit a farm with animals, then your vet may recommend a vaccination for Leptospirosis—a deadly disease that can be common among livestock and is spread through urine.



**6 Be aware of rattlesnakes.** Always keep your dog on a leash during snake season (most bites occur between April and October) or if you know you'll be going somewhere that has rattlesnakes. There isn't any medication you can take to help prevent a poisonous snake bite (for example, don't waste your money on a rattlesnake "vaccine"). If your pet does get bit, take them to an emergency clinic right away.





## CHIA POWER BLISS BALLS

With a gasp, we hiked through the thick evergreens onto an open cliff into a world wrapped with water and sky. And for a minute, we stood, gazing over the timeless Pacific as it churned. Then I wiped my brow, threw my heavy pack to the ground, and let my shoulders relax. I was tired. Aubrey was tired too, but smiling. And then she handed me an on-the-go nutrition bar. And as I tore into the plastic, the list of ingredients on the back of the wrapper caught my eye.

"We should make our own," she said.

She read my mind.



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### INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup dried dates or figs
- 1/2 cup hazelnuts or other nuts
- 1/2 tablespoon chia seeds
- 2 tablespoon oats
- 4 tablespoons nut butter
- 2 teaspoons cocoa powder

### COOKING TOOLS

- Mortar and pestle (or food processor)
- Cutting board
- Chef's knife
- Medium bowl
- Reusable wax paper

### METHOD

1. Crush the nuts and oats into a fine dust using the mortar and pestle. Set aside in the medium bowl.
2. Using your mortar and pestle, mash the dates or figs into a smooth paste.
3. Add the paste to the medium bowl, stir in all remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly.
4. Take a tablespoon of dough at a time and roll into balls. Serve and enjoy.

Yields 8 pieces.

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