

**RV Safety & Education Foundation**  
**Pre-Trip Safety Checklist**  
**Truck – Trailer**

Before Every Trip

**Truck:**

1. Engine compartment
  - Fluid levels – oil, engine coolant, brake fluid, transmission fluid, any specific fluid, i.e. hydraulic
  - Check for leaks in, around, and under the engine
  - Check for debris lodged in or around engine compartment, i.e. leaves
  - Check radiator for debris and damaged coils
  - Check all hoses for cracks, leaks, and tight fit
  - Check battery if applicable to engine compartment for fluid, corrosion, and tight connection
  - Diesel engines:
    - Check air filter indicator
    - Air tank moisture (if applicable)
2. Tires – check cold, 3 hours without usage
  - Sidewall cracks
  - Tread depth – 4/32 steering, 2/32 others
  - Rims bead for damage
  - Valve stem, cap, ant extensions
  - Proper air pressure
3. External Lights
  - Headlights
  - Fog lights
  - Clearance Lights
  - Driving lights (if applicable)
  - Parking Lights
  - Turn signals - front, back and side
  - Emergency flashers
  - Reflectors
4. Glass
  - Mirrors – check to ensure they are secure, clean, and adjusted properly and if electric working
  - Windshield – clean inside and out, check for cracks or rock chips
  - Clean all brake lights, turn signals, backup lights, and headlamps
  - Windshield wipers – ensure they are working, good blades, and fluid
5. Personal
  - Verify driver's license, registration, and proof of insurance

Check first aid kits

Emergency information – prepare a list of emergency phone numbers, personal information i.e. contact person, medication and dosage

**Trailer:**

1. Exterior walk around
  - Awnings – retracted and locked
  - Slides – retracted and secured
  - Jacks – retracted
  - Hookups – disconnected, stored, and compartment secured
  - Compartments – all items stowed, secured, lights off, compartments shut, and locked
  - Visual Inspection Under Trailer
    - Check for loose items i.e. lawn chairs
    - Check for rocks, logs, or large items
    - Look for any fluid leaks
    - Check chassis for loose equipment or wiring
  - Height – Look for any possible obstruction while leaving
  - Shut off propane tank
  - House Battery – check fluid level, corrosion, and connection
  - Steps stowed
2. Hitch
  - Connection – check connection at the vehicle
    - Ball and mount secure, 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel hitch secure
    - Coupler locked, 5<sup>th</sup> Wheel coupler closed and locked
    - Safety chains properly attached
    - Brake/light cord connected and secure
  - Lights – ensure proper turn signals, brake lights, and emergency Flashers
  - Tire pressure – ensure proper inflation, sidewall condition, tread depth
3. Interior Walk Around
  - TV antenna – retracted
  - Secure all loose items inside the unit
  - Close all doors and cabinets drawers
  - Check first aid kits, fire extinguishers, smoke and CO alarms
  - Lock the doors
4. Buckle UP!