

Boondocking Fire Safety Checklist

Print and post this checklist inside your RV. Check off items as you complete them.

Frequency Key: Daily • Weekly • Monthly • Seasonal (Spring / Fall)

Daily Checks (Before Bed)

- Verify propane valve is OFF if not using overnight heating
- Check for propane odor (rotten egg smell) near appliances and tank compartment
- Confirm all cooking appliances are OFF and cool
- Verify no extension cords are warm to touch (sign of overload)
- Ensure fire extinguishers are accessible, not blocked by gear
- Confirm emergency exits are unobstructed
- Verify generator is OFF and has cooled (touch exhaust pipe)
- Check battery compartment for any burning smell or unusual heat

Weekly Checks

- Test smoke detector using test button; verify alarm sounds
- Test propane detector (if equipped with test function)
- Inspect fire extinguisher pressure gauges (needle in green zone)
- Check shore power cord for cracks, exposed wire, or heat damage
- Inspect visible propane lines for damage or kinks
- Verify inverter operates normally without unusual heat or noise
- Check battery terminal tightness and look for corrosion
- Clean stove burner areas to remove grease buildup

Monthly Checks

- Test smoke detector with approved test aerosol; verify 30–60 second response
- Inspect all visible electrical wiring for damage, chafing, or heat discoloration
- Open electrical panel; check for any burning smell or discolored breakers
- Inspect battery cables for tightness, corrosion, or heat damage
- Test emergency window/hatch; verify smooth operation and seal integrity
- Practice emergency evacuation drill with all occupants and pets
- Verify ABC extinguisher pull pin is not corroded; shake unit to prevent settling
- Check fire blanket accessibility (if equipped)
- Inspect solar panel MC4 connectors for heat discoloration or loose connections

Seasonal Checks

- Perform LP system leak test using soap solution on all fittings
- Have propane regulator professionally inspected (every 5 years minimum)
- Replace smoke detector batteries (if not sealed 10-year units)
- Inspect generator exhaust system for cracks or separation
- Clean generator spark arrestor screen (where required)
- Verify generator mounting hardware is tight; check for fuel leaks

- Inspect roof for accumulated leaves/debris that could ignite from chimney sparks
- Review and update emergency contact information and insurance documentation
- Verify fire extinguishers haven't exceeded service life (typically 5–10 years)
- Check smoke detector manufacture date; replace if > 8 years old

Critical Notes:

- Keep at least one 5 lb ABC extinguisher by the exit; add a K \blacksquare class in the kitchen and a Halotron unit for electronics.
- Maintain a minimum 15 ft setback between generator exhaust and any RV component; increase to 25 ft during Red Flag conditions.
- If a fire is larger than a trash can or spreading rapidly, evacuate immediately. You have ~90 seconds from detection to flashover in an RV.