



# THUM INSURANCE™

## Preparing for Travel

As we approach winter, many of you are heading south to enjoy the sunshine and warm weather and avoid the snow and cold temperatures. For others, you are done with your summer travels and are getting ready to store your RV for the winter months. If you fall in the first category, here are some important items to consider before leaving home for the winter months.

### PRE-TRAVEL CHECKLIST

Traveling safely is important to everyone who takes to the road in a motor home or with their truck and trailer. Making sure your RV is well maintained and ready to go when you are is the key to having a safe trip.

Before your trip, make sure to refer to your pre-travel checklist to avoid preventable repairs and problems. Make sure your checklist includes the following items:

- Check your fluid levels (oil, power steering, engine coolant, windshield washer, transmission, brake fluid). Make sure the levels are appropriate according to your Owner's Manual.
- Check your battery, lights, flashers, horn, and interior gauges. Start your engine and make sure everything works properly.
- Carry spare parts with you: fuel filters, oil, highway flares, light bulbs, spark plugs, air filter.

- Check and set tire pressure to actual axle load. Check tread to make sure it is at least 2/32". Carry an accurate tire pressure gauge with you. Make sure wheel lugs have the proper tightness.

- Confirm refrigerator and air conditioning are working properly. When packing refrigerator, be sure allow air flow by not packing too tightly.

- Check your fire extinguisher and smoke alarms to make sure all are functioning properly. It is recommended to have multiple fire extinguishers in your RV. Make sure you are putting safety first.

- Verify your insurance is up-to-date. Carry a current ID card and current registration with you.

- Confirm your towing and roadside assistance membership and carry the 800# with your membership number for easy reference.

You will also want to make a checklist for your personal items:

- Sufficient supply of prescription medicines and copies of prescriptions.

- Camera, film and/or camcorder.

- Address book with telephone numbers for friends and family as well as your physicians and other emergency contacts.

- Emergency items, such as first aid kit, heating pad, and ice bag.

- Special pet supplies, food and medications (if necessary).

- Maps and contact information for the areas you will be traveling to and places you plan on staying.

- Make sure neighbors are aware of your departure and return dates and a central contact person has an itinerary of your travels as well as methods to reach you.

- Discontinue home services, such as mail and newspaper delivery.

After you have packed up your RV and loaded in the passengers, put on your seatbelt and head down the road!

Having a detailed pre-travel checklist can help you remember the little things that might not be so obvious. Take the time to prepare a checklist that you can use over and over and adjust as needed. The peace of mind will be worth the time!

*If you have any questions on RV Specialty Insurance please contact Thum Insurance Agency at 1-800-866-0777. Office hours are 8:00 am to 6:00 pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.*

*Thum Insurance Agency, L.L.C. has provided personalized RV insurance packages for RVers since 1990.*

Coverages may vary by state and company. Coverages are controlled by the policies issued and are not modified, extended or revised by the descriptions contained herein.