

RV Holding-Tank Dumping & Sewer Sanitation

Free download · 5 sections

An ordered black-then-gray dumping checklist for secure hose connections, rinse boundaries, spill response, and clean storage.

Important safety notice

This checklist is a general memory aid for people already familiar with their equipment. It is not operating instruction, training, inspection, certification, or a determination that an RV is safe or roadworthy. It cannot account for your equipment, loading, condition, environment, or applicable law. Follow current manuals, labels, and qualified guidance. Stop when a condition or required check is unclear, unsafe, damaged, or cannot be verified; get qualified or emergency help as appropriate.

Position & Stage Cleanly

- ☐ **Approved dump location and posted instructions confirmed**
- ☐ **RV parked clear of traffic; parking brake set**
Keep people and pets away from the hose path and dump-station traffic.
- ☐ **Tank levels provide useful flow for the planned dump**
Low volume may leave solids behind; follow the tank and treatment guidance.
- ☐ **Disposable gloves and cleanup supplies within reach**
- ☐ **Sewer hose, fittings, seals, and caps inspected**
Replace split hose, flattened seals, or fittings that do not lock.
- ☐ **Dedicated rinse hose identified apart from potable gear · If rinsing**
- ☐ **Freshwater equipment remains closed and stored away**

STOP

Keep people and pets clear of dump-station traffic. Reposition when the RV, hose path, or work area is exposed to moving vehicles.

Secure the Flow Path

- ☐ **RV outlet cap loosened cautiously with valve handles closed**
Pause if trapped liquid appears behind the cap.
- ☐ **Hose locked to the RV outlet; fitting tug-checked**
- ☐ **Discharge fitting seated and secured in the sewer inlet**
Use the site's required seal or adapter; keep the hose from jumping free.
- ☐ **Hose run supported without kinks, traffic, or low traps**
- ☐ **Clear fitting positioned for observation · If equipped**

- ☐ **Spill-control materials placed where they remain reachable**

STOP

Do not open a tank valve until both hose ends are locked and the discharge inlet is approved and secure. Stop if the cap reveals unexpected pressure or liquid.

Dump Black, Rinse, Then Gray

- ☐ **Black valve opened gradually while fittings are watched**
Stand to the side of the valve and hose rather than over a connection.
- ☐ **Black flow allowed to finish before rinse or valve change**
- ☐ **Built-in tank rinse connected with the non-potable hose · If equipped and permitted**
- ☐ **Rinse operated with the black valve state in its manual · If equipped**
Remain at the controls; do not leave a pressurized rinse unattended.
- ☐ **Black valve closed after flow and approved rinse finish**
- ☐ **Gray valve opened to send wash water through the hose**
- ☐ **Gray flow finished; valve closed before disconnection**
- ☐ **Macerator sequence follows its exact operator manual · If equipped**
- ☐ **Portable waste tank remains within its ratings and instructions · If used**

STOP

Do not close a tank valve against an active rinse unless the exact system manual directs it. Stop for swelling, blockage, backup, or a leaking connection.

Disconnect Without Cross-Contamination

- ☐ **Rinse source shut off and residual pressure released · If used**
- ☐ **Sewer-end fitting disconnected while RV end stays attached**
Raise the hose progressively toward the inlet so residual liquid drains.
- ☐ **RV-end fitting disconnected; outlet cap seal checked**
- ☐ **Hose rinsed at the designated non-potable source · Where permitted**
- ☐ **Hose ends capped and stored in the sewer-equipment bin**
- ☐ **Gloves discarded; hands washed with soap and safe water**
- ☐ **Potable hose and fittings remain uncontaminated**

Close Out Problems

- ☐ **Ground, inlet, RV outlet, and storage bay checked for leaks**
- ☐ **Spill isolated and reported under site instructions · If a spill occurred**
Keep people and pets clear; use the site's cleanup and reporting process.
- ☐ **Valve, seal, hose, sensor, or blockage defects logged · If found**
- ☐ **Freeze-prone hose and valve contents managed per RV manual · When freezing is possible**

QUALIFIED HELP Do not enter a holding tank or mix tank chemicals. Use qualified service for a blocked system, stuck valve, damaged tank, recurring leak, or unknown chemical reaction.