

It is Easy Being Green in an RV

Some might agree that “It’s not easy being green,” but it might require less effort than you think when traveling in your RV. From hybrid RVs to solar power, the RV industry is making itself known in the new “green” culture.

According to the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA), nearly one-fifth of RVers have solar panels on their RV to help generate their own power source. A recent survey showed that more than two-thirds of RVers minimize water use on trips, almost half recycle more on RV vacations than on other types and nearly half turn off home utilities before they hit the road. In addition, 94% of all RVers travel with 2-7 people, meaning the vehicles get more people miles per gallon.

Campgrounds have also taken steps toward becoming “green.” Some have installed their own wind turbines to create their own electricity. Everything from recycling stations and energy efficient lighting to geothermal heating/cooling systems and solar panels can be seen at campgrounds all across the country.

You can find many “green” RV products at the PA RV & Camping Show on September 15 – 19 in Hershey including several manufacturers who have been certified “green.” TRA Certification Inc, an accredited certification organization, has certified several RV manufacturers as being “green”. TRA’s bases their rating for RV manufacturers on the following categories: water efficiency, indoor environmental quality, operation and maintenances, resource efficiency and energy efficiency.

Woodland Park’s entire line of park models is green certified. Jayco Inc. announced that all of its products – including brands produced by Jayco, Starcraft RV and Entegra Coach – have been green certified. Coachmen RV has also been certified as a “green capable” RV manufacturer. Earthbound RV, which has an eco-friendly philosophy, has been voted “Green RV of the Year” by *Roaming Times* and is green certified by certification agency NTA. Evergreen RV and Forest River are also among those producing RVs that are more energy and water efficient as well as using healthier materials.

Many RV manufacturers, such as Galileo and Open Range use green components to produce their products. From bamboo flooring to solar panels, many manufacturers are incorporating “green” material in effort to reduce their carbon footprint.

RV accessories and supplies are becoming eco-friendly too. From Cummins Onan’s hybrid generators to Azdel’s composite panels which are lighter than wood creating better fuel efficiency, every aspect of the industry is making an effort to create a greener way to RV.

To see the latest in RVs, including the latest green innovations, visit the PA RV & Camping Show September 15 – 19 at the Giant CenterSM in Hershey, PA. For more information visit www.largestRVshow.com or call 888.303.2887.