

Florida Summer RV Prep Checklist

Beat the heat — your April/May rundown before peak season

Florida summer is brutal on RVs. Sustained 90°F+ temps, 80%+ humidity, daily thunderstorms, and relentless UV will find every weak point on your rig. This checklist is what I run through with my own customers every **April or May** — before the heat peaks and before A/C service appointments fill up. Catch problems now and you'll spend the summer camping instead of waiting on a tech.

A/C System (Most Critical)

- ☐ Replace or wash return air filters — clogged filters kill compressors in FL heat
- ☐ Inspect and clean condenser coils on the roof unit (gentle water + soft brush)
- ☐ Check capacitor reading — weak capacitors are the #1 cause of summer A/C failures
- ☐ Verify thermostat calibration; consider upgrading to a smart RV thermostat
- ☐ Listen for unusual hum or vibration — early warning of motor bearing failure
- ☐ Schedule a professional A/C tune-up BEFORE July (we book up fast)

Roof & Seals

- ☐ Inspect every seam, vent, skylight, and antenna base for cracking sealant
- ☐ Look for soft spots underfoot — early sign of water intrusion
- ☐ Check for UV damage on rubber roof membrane (chalking, brittleness)
- ☐ Reseal with the correct product for your roof type (TPO, EPDM, fiberglass)
- ☐ Trim back any tree branches scraping the roof

Batteries & Electrical

- ☐ Check battery water level (flooded lead-acid) every 2–3 weeks in summer heat
- ☐ Clean terminals — Florida humidity accelerates corrosion
- ☐ Load-test batteries; FL heat reduces life 30–50% vs northern states
- ☐ Inspect shore power cord and plug for heat damage or melting
- ☐ Verify EMS / surge protector is functioning (lightning season = real)

Tires & Exterior

- ☐ Check tire pressure cold — heat increases pressure 1 PSI per 10°F
- ☐ Inspect sidewalls for UV cracking and bulges

- ☐ Apply UV protectant to tires if RV sits outdoors
- ☐ Wax exterior to protect gel coat / paint from UV degradation
- ☐ Lubricate slide-out seals and mechanisms (humidity = corrosion)

Plumbing & Appliances

- ☐ Sanitize fresh water system (tank gets nasty fast in heat)
- ☐ Flush water heater — FL water leaves heavy mineral sediment
- ☐ Test refrigerator on both 12V and propane modes
- ☐ Clean refrigerator vent stack — debris causes overheating shutoffs
- ☐ Check propane regulator and hoses for cracking

Pre-Trip (Before Every Summer Drive)

- ☐ Confirm A/C cools to 20°F below ambient within 15 minutes
- ☐ Verify all running and brake lights
- ☐ Check coolant level on motorhome chassis (overheating risk in FL stop-and-go)
- ☐ Stage emergency kit: jumper cables, tire plug kit, water, the phone number on this PDF

Pro Tip From Andrew

The single best thing you can do for an RV in Florida summer is service the A/C **before** you need it. By the time it stops cooling on a 95°F day, parts are backordered and every mobile tech in the state is booked 2 weeks out. Spring tune-up = summer peace of mind.

Need help running this checklist?

Call Andrew direct: (206) 504-6067

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