

Web Exclusives

RVers' GoPetFriendly Teams With Winnebago

By Meaghan Alfier

MotorHome

March 26, 2010



The Burkerts with their dogs and Winnebago View

Imagine a world where you don't have to worry about leaving your pet cooped up in the house or RV for hours on end while you go about your day. Where dogs and their owners can explore the world and all its fast-moving sights and curious smells together, without having to worry about things like finding a tree to tie up your dog while you run into a café to get a cup of coffee. This world may exist only in the dreams of pet lovers, but it is a dream that two RVers, Amy and Rod Burkert, are attempting to transform into reality.

In 2009, they launched GoPetFriendly.com, a free website where users can search for places where their pets are welcome. The couple, who have two dogs, (a Shar-Pei, Ty, and Buster, a German shepherd) was frustrated after finding that most hotel-booking sites allow you to search for pet-friendly establishments, but don't offer much information beyond that in terms of weight restrictions, fees and additional information.

GoPetFriendly.com has current pet policies for more than 4,000 pet-friendly campgrounds and RV parks and more than 20,000 hotels and B&Bs throughout the U.S. and Canada. It also lists restaurants, beaches, stores, service providers and more that allow pets, making it one-stop shopping for planning a pet-friendly vacation. And if a user knows of a pet-friendly location that's not listed on the website, they can click on the "Fill Us In" link at the bottom of the home page to let the Burkerts know.

"We wanted to create a website that would make it easy for people to plan fun trips with their pets," Amy Burkert told MotorHome magazine.

Amy is no stranger to camping and the conveniences that it offers for traveling with pets, having RVed in two types of small campers with her family and pet Beagle as a child. It was a natural decision for the Burkerts to team up with top RV manufacturer Winnebago to make traveling with their two dogs even easier.

“For us, I’d say traveling in an RV is the easiest way to travel with pets,” Burkert says. “Both of our dogs are too large to fly in the cabin of an airplane, and I’ve never been comfortable with the idea of putting them in the cargo hold. We’ve done a couple of long road trips in our car, and I think we’re all looking forward to having more space to spread out.”

Both of the Burkerts left their day jobs to focus on GoPetFriendly.com, and are currently exploring the country in their new [2010 Winnebago View](#), a 24-foot Class C motorhome built on a **Dodge/Mercedes-Benz Sprinter chassis**. The View has many features that the entire Burkert family, including Ty and Buster, appreciate.

“The floor space is key. The extra square feet provided by the large slideout room and locating the bed over the cab really makes a big difference,” Burkert says, adding, “It also helps keep pet hair out of your sheets!”

A little training goes a long way when traveling with pets, and the Burkerts recommend being clear and consistent: “You can’t expect that your dog will follow commands when you’re away from home if you haven’t practiced in your own back yard.”

The Burkerts don’t plan on stopping their adventures in their Winnebago View anytime soon, and recommend Washington, D.C., and St. Louis to RVers looking for pet-friendly destinations. According to Amy, “I’m looking forward to the freedom – the opportunity to see new things, meet new people, to stay as long as we want and then head off to the next place that sounds interesting.”

Keep up with the Burkert family's adventures by visiting their [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [blog](#) pages.

To read more articles like this, [subscribe to MotorHome magazine today!](#)

1 vote

Echo 20 Items

[Admin](#)



★ [forrest jukich](#)

My cat diesel 300hp wont start after sitting all winter! It turns over but wont fire. The in line air heater doesnt lite up but I believe it should still start? what do you think? what could be wrong with the heater? I live in northern WI; I have had this MH for 4 years and no problems. thank you for your quick reply!

04/27/2008, 20:22:29 - Like - Reply



★ [forrest jukich](#)

My cat diesel 300hp wont start after sitting all winter! It turns over but wont fire. The in line air heater doesnt lite up but I believe it should still start? what do you think? what could be wrong with the heater? I live in northern WI; I have had this MH for 4 years and no problems. thank you for your quick reply!

04/27/2008, 20:23:23 - Like - Reply

**JEFF GORDON**

COULD BE THE SENSOR OR THE WIRING TO IT BUT IT ALSO MAY BE LOSING PRIME IN THE SYSTEM FROM IT SITTING GIVING YOU A HARD START PROBLEM AND RUNNING YOUR BATT(S) DOWN

05/27/2008, 17:36:19 - Like - Reply

**Steve Banner**

I had no problem with the diesel coach, Cummins, but did on the generator and it turned out to be the battery was turning the starter over too slowly. Do you have a plug in for the warm up on the engine that plugs into a 120 volt outlet? The engine may need to be preheated a little more. Also some diesel fuel gels a little when sitting over the winter ,, I dont necessarily recomment it but some put a little kerosene in the tank to avoid gelled fuel.

08/07/2008, 23:06:43 - Like - Reply

**Prevostman**

I agree with Steve. You need to keep it plugged into shore power whenever you are not using it to keep all your batteries charged up and in the winter months, make sure your blockheater switch and block heater plug are both turned on and plugged in. These things need air to operate so it would also be wise to start your Motorhome once a week as well to keep air moving thru all the lines. If not, they will get excess moisture in your lines not to mention do damage to all your O-rings.

4 days ago, 18:19:20 - Like - Reply

**Guest**

start it up during the winter

07/25/2009, 13:44:58 - Like - Reply

**Don McCallum42**

I have a 1993 rivera cobra and the running lights are shorted out is ther a #1 suspect to look fore I did find the fuse burned out

10/27/2008, 18:31:59 - Like - Reply

**Prevostman**

Replace your fuse and walk around it while they are all still on and see if some lights are brighter than others, if they are or start to flicker, you have either a bad ground or a dead short.

If you have ladder handy, get your 12v tester and pop the lens off of all lights first then turn them on and test them .

Hope this helps.

4 days ago, 18:22:35 - Like - Reply

**Chris Farrow**

Hi, I wonder if anyone would be interested in having a vacation. I have set up a website - Motorhome Holiday Swap - where you can swap vehicles for vacations. Destinations available Australia, Canada, USA, New Zealand, France, Spain, Holland, UK, South Africa and many more. This website is running free so now is the time to have a free vacation. Register at www.motorhomeholidayswap.com

Thanks

Chris

11/24/2008, 15:06:10 - Like - Reply

**welovetotravel**

Chris, I would like to go to any of those places when the weather is right and look forward to swapping this fabulous camper (we have a brand new camper with generator and solar panel) with your motor home. We located in BC Canada.

I will try to get on your web site today.

PICTURES



04/12/2009, 16:00:05 - Like - Reply



Guest

an inverter blew a fuse on my friend's rv (Canadian snowbirds) when he grounded out a screwdriver on the inverter. The fuses are soldered in - my question is are these fuses replacable ? I could use a soldering gun and remove the bad ones (maybe all 6, just in case) and then replace them with new ones and re-solder them back in. Any advice ?

02/22/2009, 12:39:16 - Like - Reply

Liked by Guest



mERLE

i HAVE A 2001 TOYOTA TACOMA REAR WHEEL DRIVE, CAN I TOW FOUR ON THE GROUND WITHOUT DRIVE SHAFT DISCONNECT THANK YOU

02/22/2009, 14:44:56 - Like - Reply



mojo

I have a gasoline Damon Daybreak motorhome. We went to Colorado snow skiing two years ago and are going back this year. My motorhome would hardly run in that altitude. I'm told I can adjust the carburetor. Can you tell me how to do this? They told me I couldn't adjust it until I get up there as the motorhome wouldn't run well in lower altitudes if I had it done before I leave.

03/07/2009, 10:08:13 - Like - Reply



judy snyder

This isn't a comment--I have a question how do you CLEAN the day@ nite shades on the windows? Also we need to replace some of our windows in the motorhome cause they are single pane @ So colded when traveling in the window. We have gone to WA,MONTANA,IDAHO,NEV,AZ to check on replacing our windows. Talked to everyone we could no luck any where. Please help us you are the only place that have great answers Thanks

03/07/2009, 10:34:20 - Like - Reply



Prevostman

Question (1) Are the shades stained or just dusty and need cleaning? If stained you can use carpet stain remover.(The foam type) Spray on a kitchen sponge, NOT ON SHADE, and put one hand behind the shade and work sponge left to right, then up and down. Allow to dry then return with a damp HOT sponge and repeat previous steps. After they dry this time you should be to simply use a vacuum with the attachment that has the small flexible bristles on it and put your hand behind it and vacuum the

area to remove any powdered residue.
If they are just dusty, simply use the vacuum method above.

Question (2) Please tell us the year and model of your motorhome so we can be better informed on how we can address your problems.

More info = more answers.

Good Luck.

4 days ago, 18:50:28 - Like - Reply

< Prev 1 2 Next >

Social Networking by

[Leave a comment](#)