

The RV Grey Tank – To Open or Close?

The RV grey tank is a frequent topic of conversation among RVers with differing opinions on whether to leave them open or keep them closed. Let's explore the advantages and disadvantages of both.

What is a Grey Tank?

The grey tank is where all wastewater from sinks, showers, and laundry drain to. When grey valves are closed, RVers need to monitor tank levels frequently so that they do not overflow the grey holding tanks. Many RVers choose to keep grey tank valves closed and only empty when full or for use to flush plumbing after dumping the black tank. This school of thought made sense before the existence of black tank flush systems, of which most RVs are equipped with today. Black tank flush systems are the most effective way to flush out RV plumbing with clean water. So, what are the pros and cons of leaving grey tank valves open?



1) PROS of leaving Grey tank valves open:

- You can take longer and more frequent showers.
- No need to keep count of laundry, dish washing and shower sessions.
- No need to monitor grey tank levels.
- Plenty of laundry to do? No problem!

2) CONS of leaving Grey tank valves open:

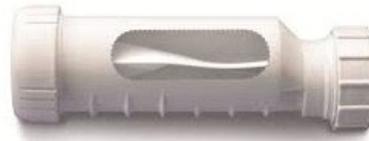
- The odor and hazards from toxic sewer gas entering your RV's plumbing system and holding tanks.
- Potential for bugs and sewer fly infiltration into your RV's plumbing and holding tanks, where they will nest and breed.

The pros of leaving grey tank valves open is clear, but is it worth the cons? In a standard residential home, P-traps installed into bathroom, kitchen and laundry room plumbing are used to prevent similar odor, vapor and pest hazards. Most RV's today have what are referred to as "Waterless" Traps installed in the grey drainage plumbing. These traps though effective, can be compromised over time with the accumulation of hair, soap scum, grease and oil. Vapor and tiny sewer flies/gnats will penetrate any compromise to the seal. It must also be noted that these preinstalled traps offer no barrier between your sewer hose and the holding tanks.

Build-Up



Trap Seal



Waterless Trap

Some RVers attempt to create their own P-traps with zip ties, wire, crates, stones, bricks, logs or whatever may be available. **The reliable solution?** The new **RV Snap Trap®** is the **industry's first and only "Snap-On" P-trap** designed to fit all standard RV sewer hoses, ensuring a perfect plumber grade P-Trap every time!



This innovative solution transforms any standard RV sewer hose into a highly effective barrier against sewer gas and pesky sewer flies. Designed for convenience, comfort, versatility, and piece of mind, the **RV Snap Trap®** is a must-have for hassle-free campsite living and *extended open gray tank valve usage.

With the **RV Snap Trap®**, you can experience the comfort and convenience of home while on the road, without the hassle.

Pick up your very own and enjoy comfort, convenience and freedom!

* Close, fill, cleanse and flush gray holding tanks that have been left open and in continual use for extended periods of time, at least once every three months.