OUTSIDE VAN®

WATER SYSTEM

Identification, Usage, Storage, and Maintenance

The water system of a van is different than that of a house in a few ways. The supply of water and power is limited, components are not always on and the water is susceptible to freezing at cold temperatures. This means you must manage and monitor your resources for best use and to prevent damage to the van components. this guide goes over the components associated with the water system identifying them, their power source, maintenance and trouble shooting.

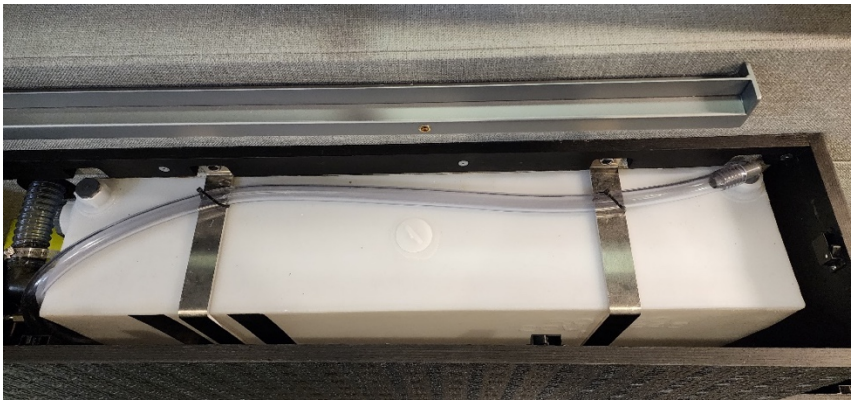
WATER BOX

This is the heart of your water system housing the majority of the components relating to the function of your van's water system. Typical components in the box are: water tank, water inlet tube, water pump, water pump particulate filter, Floe system or blowout valve, rear shower outlet, hot water mixer valve, hydronic reservoir, and heat exchanger.

WATER TANK

Location: water box

This holds your water. There is a water inlet line, a vent line, and a drain line connected to the tank.



WATER TANK DRAIN

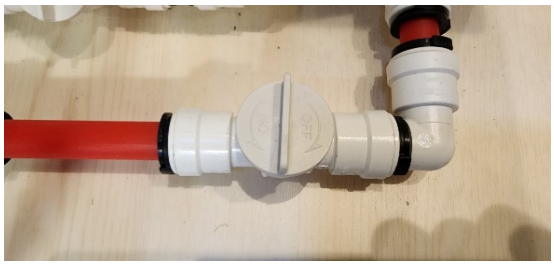
Behind the access door of the water box or by removing the water box top you will see a valve to open or close the drain for the tank. The tank drain tube can be identified as a colored red pex pipe that goes through the van floor; you will see some silicone where the

pipe meets the floor. This drain pipe also has a valve to open or close the flow of water for draining purposes. This drain is used for winterization or sanitation to drain the water from the water tank.

WATER VALVES

Turn the valve parallel to the line for open or perpendicular for closed.

open



closed

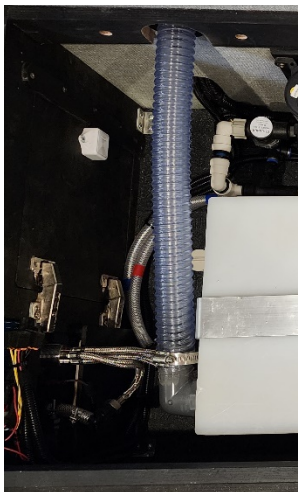
WATER FILL

Location: most commonly driver's side of the van same side as the water box.

OSV KEY FOR WATER FILL

Use the house-made Outside Van key or the two prong key to remove the fill cap. When threading the cap back on do not over tighten as this can damages the o-ring and over time the cap will leak requiring a replacement o-ring. Once the cap stops under light pressure, about an eighth of a turn or less past that is sufficient.

WATER INLET LINE



This is the line in which the water travels to fill the water tank.

WATER FILL NOZZLE

This connects to a garden hose to help the process of filling the van with water. We now provide a fill nozzle 2021 and up: that can regulate the flow of water; if the flow is too high or fast water will spill back out. Regulate the flow with the black valve to prevent this.

TANK SYSTEM MONITOR

iSeries

Power type: 12V

Location: upper cabinet or water box.

Fuse type: blade, location upper cabinet

This monitors the level of your fresh water tank and grey water tank if you have one. You must turn on the gauge to see and cycle through the display showing your tank levels. There is an audible alarm for the water and grey tank. We recommend leaving that on in the beginning and only turning off if you do not wish to be notified of low or full levels via an alarm.

GREY WATER TANK

Location: underneath the van passenger or driver's side.

If you have this option. This holds the waste water from your shower and sink. Some campgrounds or states (i.e California) require one for water use. It has a blade valve to release the water from the tank and large screw cap. Remove the cap first then open the blade valve to drain the tank. You will drain this when full or when you want to winterize the van.

1. Open the cap by turning counter clockwise

2. Open the blade valve to drain by pulling the handle to the left.

SINK AND SHOWER DRAIN

Location: under the van directly below the sink.

If you do not have a grey water tank, there is a cap underneath the van to allow water to drain onto the ground when using the sink or indoor shower. You will know if this is not open as the sink will fill with water. Open this when you want to use the sink or indoor shower

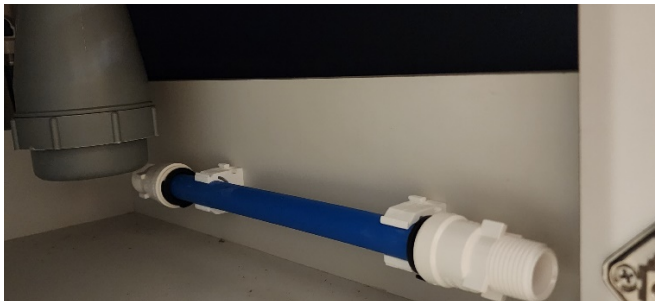
CARBON FILTER

Location: galley under the sink.

This inline carbon filter is installed to filter the water for some contaminants and taste. It is uni-directional and needs replacement periodically. Once per year is a good habit. The filter also needs to be removed when winterizing or sanitizing the water system. There is a straight pipe clipped under the sink cabinet that you replace the filter with when winterizing. *See the winterization section for more info on this. Flow Pur FP10GKT*

Straight pipe

This is used if you do not want to use the carbon water filter or during winterization. You put this pipe in place of the carbon filter.



WATER PUMP AND SWITCHES

Power type: 12V

Location: water box

Switch location: upper cabinet, shower, water box next to the rear shower.

Fuse type: Blade. Location: most common, Upper cabinet fuse block

Water pump on/off switch

To use your shower or sink you must turn on your water pump to create water pressure. Turn the toggle switch to the on position — most of the time you will hear the pump turn on if it is building pressure. Keep the pump on while you are using the various faucets. It is important to turn this off after you are done using the faucets. Each switch location must be off for the pump to be turned off. Usually there are two (depending on your build) — one on the overhead cabinet and one by the shower outlet.

SHOWER OUTLET

Plug the shower end into the outlet — you should hear a click when it is fully engaged. Flip the level all the way for constant on or leave it for a press-to-use function.

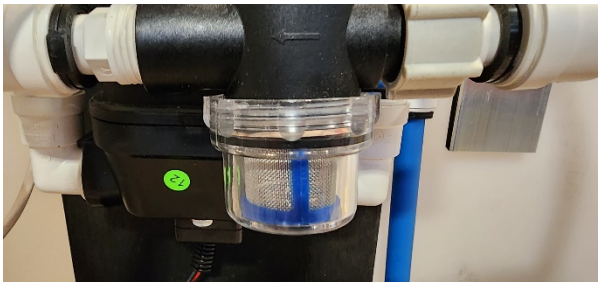
SHOWER HOSE

Over time this may dry out and no longer snap in as usual. A small amount of plumbers silicone lube can be used around the ring and it should snap in as before.

PARTICLE FILTER

Location: water box

This is a stainless screen that filters larger particles before going through your water pump and into the fresh water lines. It protects the pump and filters larger particles. This needs to be cleaned out from time to time and during the winterization process it needs be unscrewed to get the water out of it to prevent freezing. *See the winterization document for more info on this. Model: 51S01 50 mesh*



AIR BLOWOUT (about 2021 and older)

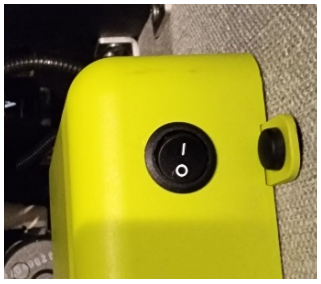
Location: Water box

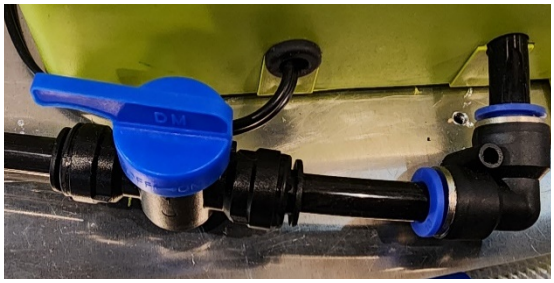
There is a Shrader valve (bicycle or car tire valve) with a regulator behind it. This is used to blow out the lines on your water system during a cleaning or winterization. If you have a Floe system you likely do not have this — see below for Floe. Simply connect an airline from an air compressor and blow out your system. Follow the detailed instructions on the winterization document on when and how to do this. *Note: Do not blow out your system unless you have removed the charcoal filter and replaced it with the straight tube.*

FLOW (about 2021 and newer)

Location: water box

Fuse type: Blade fuse. Location: upper cabinet fuse block





This is used on the last step of winterizing your van or clearing out the system of water. Refer to the winterization instructions for full use information. It has a black rocker switch for on and off. The blue valve is to open up the air line when clearing out the water from your water system for cleaning or winterization of your water system.

Reach out to service@outsidevan.com if you have any questions or concerns