

Fire Safety

HDT Rally
2019

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**Know and practice
your escape plan!**

Research shows that 30 years ago, you had about 17 minutes to escape a house fire. Today it's down to 3 or 4 minutes. The reason: the synthetic furniture and materials that are used in home construction today actually burn hotter and faster than natural materials do.

**Kansas City Missouri Fire
Department (KCFD)**

Resources

- Fire Suppression Section: www.jackdanmayer.com
- Fire Fight Products: <http://www.firefightproducts.com>
- Fire Command extinguisher:
<http://www.amazon.com/dp/B00LN6S42G?psc=1>
- Fire Gone – 2 pack ([Amazon](#))

RV Fire Statistics

- National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) type 136/137
- About 10,000 RV fires per year.
- About 9 million RV's on the road (RVIA)

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- About HALF of the fires are while parked. (*RV Alliance America*)
 - 70% start in engine compartments.
 - 20% are tire or brake fires. And these are usually undetected until too late.
 - 25% of RV fires are in the 12-volt electrical system. (*National Interstate*)



Prevention

- Obvious things
 - Don't use cooktop to heat with !
 - Keep portable heaters away from flammables
 - Don't leave things on the stove unattended
 - Don't leave your electric fireplace on unattended

Prevention

Maybe not so obvious.....

- Make sure your shore power cord is undamaged



Burned Shore Power Cord

The “Other” End



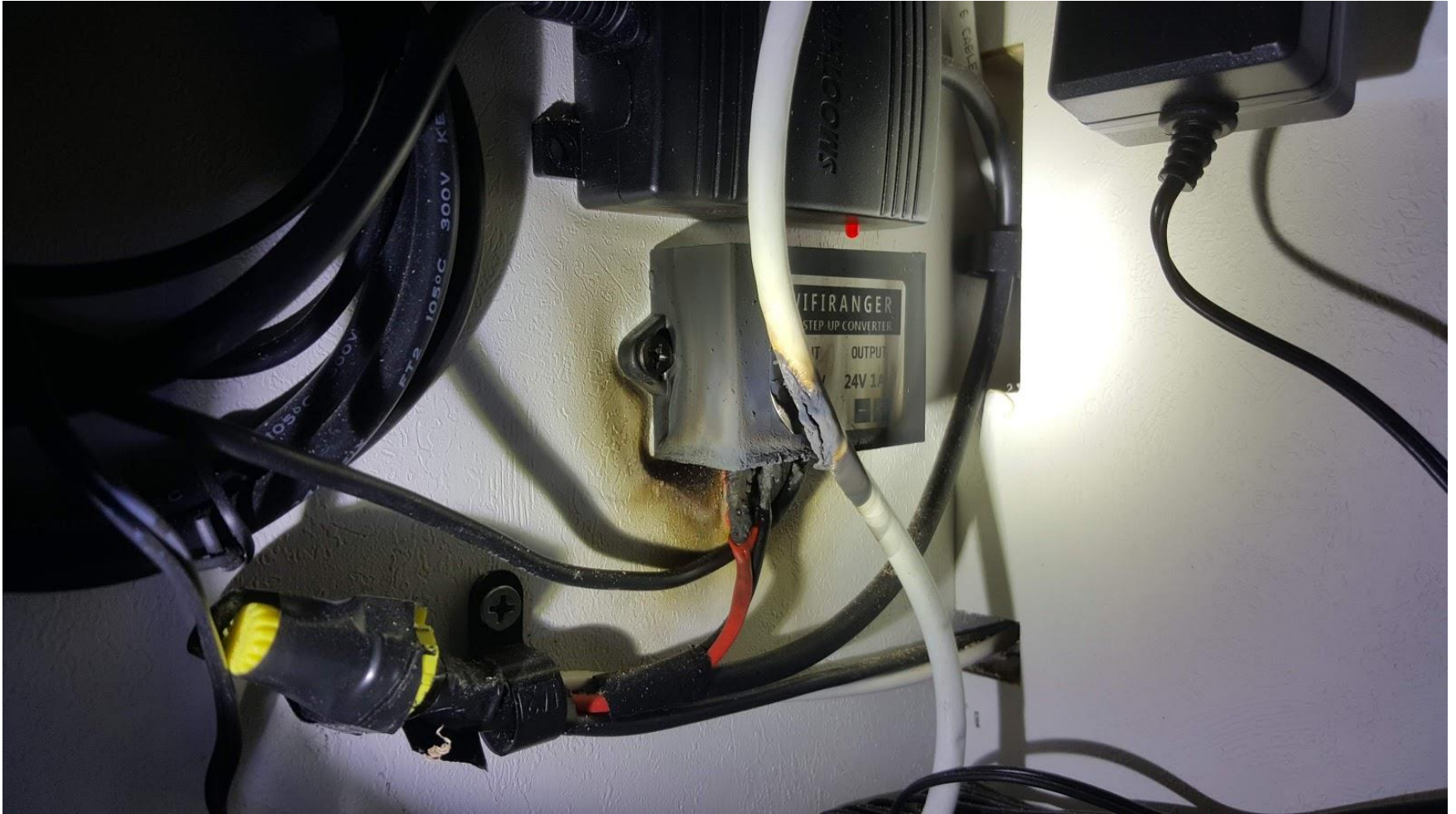
Burned Neutral Wire



Burned EMS Hot Wire



Wall Transformers



Prevention

- Maybe not so obvious.....
 - Tighten electrical box, generator, inverter and transfer switch lugs yearly



Prevention

- Make sure you have good tires, brakes, bearings. And keep them serviced.



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Prevention

- Make SURE you have a catastrophe fuse on inverter/battery line



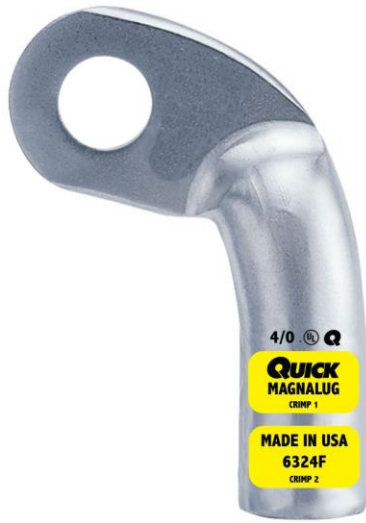
Prevention

- Properly service your furnace and refrigerator (“out of sight – out of mind”)



Prevention

- Check battery lug torque during battery maintenance



Prevention

- Don't use cheap electric heaters – use quality ceramic heaters



Detection

- Smoke, propane and carbon monoxide detectors need testing – they may not work!
- **Always** replace detectors after 5 years. Test function does not guarantee proper operation. (except newer 10-year models)
- Networked detectors in basement – network to living area

Detection

- Networked smoke detector
- Photoelectric sensor detects smoldering fires better
- Voice alert for area – you know which alarm went off
- All alarms will go off if one does



Available on Amazon

First Alert SA511CN2-3ST

Detection

Use tire monitors – many fires start from undetected blown tires



Experts say that in an RV you have 90 seconds before the fire is uncontrollable. You must be able to knock it down fast. **Get OUT of the RV and STAY OUT!!!**

Firefighting

Extinguishers

- Extinguisher classes
 - Class A: ordinary combustibles like paper
 - Class B: flammable liquids like gas, oil
 - Class C: electrical
- RVs require class B:C
- Better for all extinguishers to be class A:B:C
- Common RV extinguisher is a dry chemical; a “foam” extinguisher is better (wetting agents)
- Look at *ColdFire*, *FireAde 2000*, *HalGuard* extinguishers that use advanced suppression agents
- Extinguisher source
 - Fire Fight Products (firefightproducts.com)
 - Home Stores sometimes have foam extinguishers

Firefighting

Extinguishers

- Have a minimum of four extinguishers
 - Kitchen area
 - Bedroom
 - Outside compartment (unlocked)
 - Truck DOT compliant extinguisher (in truck)
- Maintain your extinguishers; pressure, date, settling
- **Must have** an advanced extinguisher for tire/brake fires – outside compartment extinguisher (ColdFire, FireAde, HalGuard, etc.)

Firefighting

What If the Neighboring RV Catches Fire?



Spare hose for water-down.

Firefighting Refrigerators

- There are MANY fires
- They are hard to detect before serious damage
- You need automatic extinguishing
- We recommend a **halon** extinguisher that deploys at 165* - about \$275
- ColdFire auto-extinguisher would be equally effective



This fire caused \$100,000 of damage to a \$600,000 coach

Consider a residential refrigerator

Halon Extinguisher



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Halon Extinguisher



Fire Fight Products

www.firefightproducts.com

- Available on Amazon
- Large and small containers
- Straight angled and remote heads
- Specific designs for RV refrigerators
- Used with Generators and engines
- Prices start at \$275 and go to \$475



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Other Preparation

- Escape plan and discussion
- Have you opened your bedroom escape window?
- Can you climb out? Can you get to the ground?
- Are you sure of where your extinguishers are?
- If driving, can you “separate” your rig or toad FAST? Does your equipment operate easily? Can you act as a team?
- Do you know where you are?



Where Am I?

Fire ***Go Bag***

Your Safety Net

- Not a “preppers” bag, or wilderness/urban survival bag. Not a 72-hr. bag. Relatively small and **specific to Fire**.
- Typically kept in vehicle (or in bedroom)
- Important papers in fireproof safe? Copies of drivers license and important papers? Scanned and offsite storage in “cloud”?
- Sample Fire Go Bag is [here](#).

Fire *Go Bag*

What's in it?

- First Aid supplies, including trauma pack, eyewash, burn supplies
- Three days of prescription medications. Dog medications.
- Money, Copies (DL, Titles, permits, etc), Flashdrive with backups, logins, credit card info
- Keys
- Basic clothing: 1 change of everything, shoes, light jacket, stocking cap
- Basic tools: flashlight, headlamp, prybar, knife, gloves, space blankets, glasses, dog slip lead
- Food: just some energy bars and two water bottles

Don't Let This Be YOU! Be Prepared



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