

Dave Schumann, General Manager Customer Relations Group

Another month is upon us and it is time for the International Convention/Rally in Gillette, Wyoming. I hope everyone has an opportunity to attend this Rally or another Region Rally this summer; it is great times with great people. When you receive this month's magazine I will be busy trying to attend all the events at the "Alumapalooza" get together here at the Factory, should be fun.

International Convention/Rally, if you are going to be at the International Rally and need a specific part to be available at the Rally. Call Kim Britt at 937-596-6111 ext. 7429 before June 15th and it will be available for pick-up at the Toscano Sales and Service tent at the Rally site in Gillette, WY.

Cleaning Your Solar Panel

Cleaning is certainly not the first thing on people's mind when it comes to solar panels, but it is extremely important for your solar system's operation. Anything exposed to the elements will over time become dirty and in the case of solar panels, where the external surface is dependent on sunlight, ensuring they are clean will have a direct impact on your energy output.

Acloudy day will provide sufficient diffused light by which your solar panel will produce electricity. The maximum electrical production occurs with bright and sunny weather conditions. Under a light overcast day, the panels might produce about half as much as under full sun, ranging down to as little as five to ten percent under a dark overcast day. Dirty panels can affect your energy output the same way as an overcast day. Many of the companies in the solar panel maintenance business indicate dirt and debris build up can reduce a panel's energy output by 15 to 25 percent.



- · Inspect the solar panels on a periodic basis (frequency depends on your environment or the manufacturer's recommendations) to remove any debris and dirt and ensure all connections are tight.
- Panels installed and used in dusty areas may require more frequent inspection.
- · Clean the surface of a solar panel with warm water and dishwashing soap to remove any accumulation of dirt and grime. (Don't let soapy water dry on panel as it can leave a film). Wash the glass face of the panels during either the early morning or in the evening. Avoid spraying cold water onto hot panels or you could risk cracking them.

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• Be sure panel is completely clean, even a leaf, bird droppings or tree sap can severely reduce the panel's energy-producing capacity.

Must haves for cleaning your panels:

- · Be Safe- have someone with you to hold the ladder and be there in case you have a problem.
- · Ladder to get to the solar panel
- Garden hose
- · Warm water and dishwashing soap
- · Clean soft cloths to wash and dry off.

I am always looking for new products that would be of value to you, our Airstream customer. I have been testing GLARE on several Airstream trailers as well as my car and truck and believe this product will be a winner. It provides an out of this world shine and protection from bird droppings and bugs, etc. We recently shipped a trailer to California for a customer that we had applied GLARE. It arrived with bugs on the front as well as road grime, they both came off with little effort. Give it a try, I believe that you will like it too.

Airstream part number: 28437W \$34.95 available at online store www.airstream.com or call 937-596-6111 ext. 7400 or 7418

GLARE PROFESSIONAL POLISH Provides protection from the Sun, UV Rays, Acid Rain, Road tar and road chemicals, Bird droppings, Salt Water, Paint Strippers, Eggs, Dirt, Hard Water, ETC.

This product provides the highest shine available with a three dimensional depth of gloss. This is brand new technology in paint appearance and protection. GLARE PROFESSIONAL POLISH is a non-stick, high gloss, all-weather, temperature-flexible sealant containing a new type of proprietary chemical formulation called Glassplexin.

GLARE was developed by on-staff chemists who have over 150 years of paint-specific chemical experience combined. GLARE PROFESSIONAL POLISH represents the very latest in paint appearance and protection technology. It contains no waxes, polymers, or resins because those type of ingredients and chemicals have very low melting points, do not filter out UV rays, and do not hold up to regular washing. GLARE PROFESSIONAL POLISH will bond to your vehicle's paint through a covalent chemical bond, which is not possible with any other product currently available in the world's market.



"Thanks to the interstate highway system, it is now possible to travel across the country, from coast to coast, without seeing anything."-Charles Kuralt

Have a great month and we will see you on down the road!

If you have a topic for this column, please send your suggestions to: Dave Schumann, Airstream, Inc., 419 W. Pike Street, Jackson Center, OH 45334

If your topic is published, you will receive a "Schu's News" t-shirt!