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The Not-so-sweet Sweetwater, Anywhere

Posted by Misty Fauchaux on June 12, 2011 at 10:08 pm

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I grew up around RVs, and those [RV trips](#) always involved laughter, fun and the inevitable breakdown. I have more memories of sitting on the side of the road or at a gas station in the middle of the night waiting for the gas station's repair shop to open. It always seemed that our road trips were just one disaster after another.

Family Curse

I can honestly say that I have broken down in nearly every town named Sweetwater within the United States. And, I'm not kidding on this one: Sweetwater, Texas; Sweetwater, Tennessee; Sweetwater, Oklahoma; and the list goes on and on. It was like the Fauchaux family was cursed to lose an engine, a tire or a radiator in one of these towns.

My RV

So, when I grew up and bought my own RV, I swore that this wasn't going to happen to me again. I wasn't going to be stuck in the heat as my grandfather waved down a passing trucker in the desert. Everything started off great with our RV. We bought a 1979 Itasca from a friend. While my boyfriend and I are only in our 30s, the older RV was more than attractive to us and for more reasons that just the

\$3,000 price tag.

It was an [antique](#) like no other! Yes, for us two, that was appealing. She already had her dents, broken closet doors and carpet that looked like it was from the turn of the century. She looked her age with the peeling orange and green paint, but she had class. And, the free green shag carpet that I got from a garage sale just went perfectly with the interior.

We took our first trip to Wyoming and stayed at a RV park in Dubois, Wyoming. This RV park was smack dab in the middle of a town with a Giant Jackalope and random horse sculptures. It was the perfect trip.

Our Latest Trip

After this experience, we felt more than prepared for the next RV trip to the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia. We had three days to get there, and we had a plan to stop at the [Craters of the Moon](#) in Idaho. The trip was going just like a standard RV trip: winds nearly blowing us over in northern Colorado and a blizzard in Wyoming.

We had made it through the blizzard and felt that things were about to get better. Then, it happened. Yes, we broke down. And, even worse than that, we broke down in the town right after Sweetwater, Wyoming. I wish I was kidding on this one. I actually don't remember the town where the water pump blew. I just remember that we had just passed through Sweetwater. The Fauchaux/Sweetwater curse was clearly still in effect.

It took about a day to fix the RV, and then we were back on our way. We might had to skip Craters of the Moon. We, however, made it to Vancouver and our RV park. The Winter Olympics were amazing, but I seem to remember the breakdown more than the Olympics. Isn't that always the way?

Well, I guess that I can now officially check another Sweetwater off of the list. I really should [research my routes](#) beforehand and avoid at all costs driving through Sweetwater anywhere.

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