

Now that winter is here, and we are not traveling as much, you may have some free time to spend with your trailer and want to take care of some maintenance items. I met with Bill Payne earlier this year and he shared with me some of his how to maintenance guides and I thought I would share one of them with you.

Out of Sight Maintenance By Bill Payne

This is an article by Bill Payne on taking care of some maintenance in an area that you don't normally think of or see. His first out of sight article is on the storage drawer many of you have under the rear of the Classic Trailer.

Bill states that after reading an article on the subject of out of sight maintenance; he went and looked at my storage draw. He pulled the rubber mat back and sure enough it was covered with rust.

First thing he had to figure was how to remove the drawer. On the inside rear there are two bolts that keep the drawer from coming all the way out. You will need a 7/16 socket and wrench to get them out. As they are about 3" long you will be forever turning them so that the drawer can be pulled out.

After removing the drawer you will need to clean the rust out and for that he used a very stiff steel brush. It doesn't take long and you should make sure that you get as much out as you can.

After you scrape the bed you should also clean it out getting rid of all the little accumulations of dirt and grease that get trapped in the corners and edges. He uses 409 and a regular scrub brush to do this part. Now you are ready to coat the drawer bed with truck bed liner material. This stuff is real easy to use and will provide a water proof, non-slip surface in the drawer. You can buy it at any auto supply store and it comes in a spray can for about \$10 or in a quart can that you can paint on for about \$20. He opted for the quart can, so he could control the thickness and where he was putting it more effectively.

Once you start putting this on, you need to apply until you finish covering the entire area. This is not a stop and start operation. He found the material to spread on fairly easily, using a short hair stiff brush, and opted to put a light coat around the walls of the drawer and a heavier coat on the bed of the drawer.

He applied the material first to the walls and then stroked it out from the edges. He applied it heavier at the edges and then filled in the middle. The end result is a water proof drawer that should last slightly short of forever.

This stuff dries very fast, which is why you need to complete the job in one session. After it was dry he simply slid the drawer back in and retightened the bolts. If you have your RV at your work location this entire operation takes about four hours (removal, applying the materials, waiting for it to dry and reinserting the drawer. He used a lot of pictures because he finds that one picture is worth a lot in helping to explain what you hope to convey. Hope you enjoyed this article. Thank you Bill!

