

O W N E R ' S

MANUAL

& W A R R A N T Y



 **WilderNest**®
Adventure Campers

O W N E R ' S

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& W A R R A N T Y

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	2
SAFETY TIPS	2
COMPONENTS	3
OPENING INSTRUCTIONS	4
CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS	7
INSTALLING ACCESSORIES	9
SEAM SEALING & SERVICE	11
WARRANTY	12

Introduction

Congratulations on the purchase of your new WilderNest Adventure Camper. Everything possible has been done to assure your satisfaction, including the use of high quality materials, components and workmanship. Intensive quality control and testing have gone into the development of your WilderNest Camper.

Following the recommendations, particularly the precautions and camping safety tips below, will help assure the most enjoyable and trouble free operation of your WilderNest Camper.

Safety Tips

1. Do not attempt to set up the camper tent in a high wind (over 30 mph). If you must set up the WilderNest in any wind, point your truck into the wind. Avoid side winds that may slam the top open or shut as this may cause personal injury or damage to the camper.
2. Always use the stabilizer struts when your WilderNest is set up. While the cable support system has been tested for a load exceeding 1000 lbs., the stabilizer struts will prevent camper sway should an unexpected wind develop.
3. Do not leave small children unattended on the camper bed. The window on the bed side can be completely opened by unzipping both the window flap and the window screen. This provides an emergency escape window. Should a small child open both window covers, a fall to the ground is possible.
4. Never run the engine of your truck when the WilderNest Camper is occupied. Any vehicle enclosure has the possibility of a deadly carbon monoxide buildup. Be sure to regularly inspect your exhaust system for leaks.
5. Always park your truck on stable ground and set the parking brake, put your truck in gear, and chock the wheels.
6. Do not park on high points or ridges if there is the potential for electrical storms. Do not park under dead trees that may fall or drop branches. Do not park in or near a stream bed where flooding could occur.
7. It is not recommended to have an open flame in the WilderNest Camper due to the fire risk.

8. In bear country, never leave food inside the WilderNest if the tent is set up.
9. While the WilderNest is well reinforced, it is not intended to replace roll bars. Avoid steep hillsides where the potential of rolling your truck exists.
10. Do not stack hard gear against the WilderNest windows when traveling. This will prevent breakage.
11. Never drive with the top latches unsecured.
12. Do not leave small children or pets in the camper during hot weather unless the windows are open for ventilation. Heat can build up quickly in a closed tent.

Components

Your WilderNest Adventure Camper comes equipped with the following components:

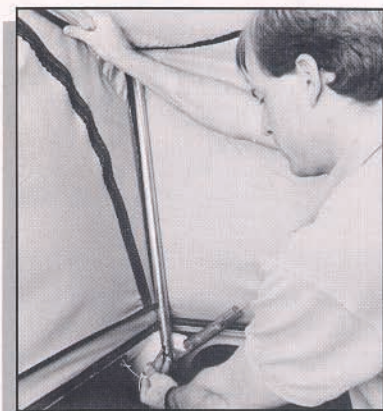
1. **SEAM SEALER.** A tube of seam sealer has been provided to waterproof the tent (see "Seam Sealing & Service").
2. **"V" SHAPED ALUMINUM BRACKETS.** Two aluminum brackets are provided to create an overhang and to give shape to the upper ventilation windows (see "Opening Instructions" #4).
3. **FIBERGLASS WANDS.** Two (compact sized trucks) or four (full sized trucks) fiberglass wands are provided to prevent flapping and increase interior volume (see "Opening Instructions" #5).
4. **OUTRIGGER POLES.** Two telescoping aluminum poles with hose clamp fasteners are provided to help level the bed and provide stability in high winds (see "Opening Instructions" #6).
5. **FOAM MATTRESS.** The 3" foam mattress is removable and washable.
6. **MATTRESS COVER.** Your mattress comes with an attractive, washable cotton mattress cover. There are velcro closures at one end of the cover for removal.
7. **PRIVACY CURTAINS.** Two removable and washable cotton privacy curtains are attached to a thin cable wire at the top of your camper. The curtains are attached with snaps for easy removal and re-installation.
8. **THROW OVER STRAP.** An 18' piece of nylon webbing with a clasp at one end and a hand loop at the other. Used as an alternative method of closing the camper (see "Folding Up Your WilderNest Camper").
9. **TIE DOWN STRAP.** A tie-down strap comprised of an adjustable length of nylon webbing with two plastic coated metal hooks at either end. Used to keep the lid of the camper from flipping over in high winds (see "Opening Instructions" #7).

Opening Instructions

- 1.** Open the two draw down latches on the driver's side near the top. Then open the rear window of the camper and lower the tailgate. Now close the rear window, climb up on the tailgate and, placing your right hand on the handle and your left hand under the corner of the lid, lift the WilderNest top over to the right. Place your left hand on the tent against the center pole and slowly lower the top into the open position. Please note: In extreme wind conditions the nylon throwover strap mentioned in "Folding Up Your WilderNest" Step #6 can be used to help open or prevent slamming depending on wind direction. This is best accomplished with one person standing on the tailgate while the second operates the throwover strap.

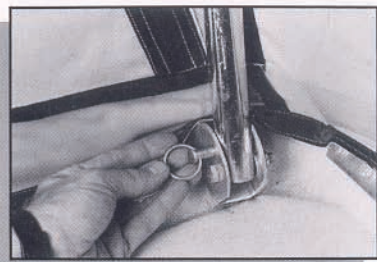


- 2.** Climb off the tailgate and open the rear window. Unsnap the four buckles holding the rear of the headliner. Climbing into the truck, completely unzip the headliner. Leaving the four front buckles of the headliner fastened, reach up and swing the driver's side tent pole up and out. Making sure the pole clears the cables, stand up and work the pole from its horizontal or closed position to its vertical or open position. As you do this use alternating arms to free the tent from hanging up on the pole as you work it into position. Place the pull pin (one on each end of the tent pole) through the holes in the pole and through the vertical supports that hold the pole in position. By placing one hand up at the corner of the tent pole and working the pole back and forth you can more easily line up the holes through which you slide the pull pins. This locks the tent pole in position. Should the small metal plate attached to the end of the cable get caught up between the tent pole and vertical support, simply pull down on the cable and



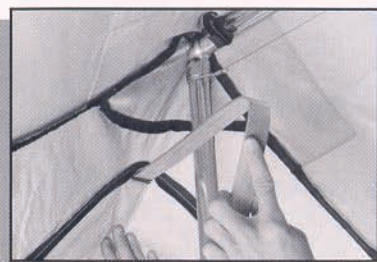
the plate will come down. Now you can release the four front buckles of the headliner.

- 3.** Unsnap the two buckles on either side of the tent pole that is lying on the mattress. Lift this pole up and out as you climb onto the bed. The bed may settle down a little as the springs hold the cables in a slack position when there is no weight on the bed.



Push the tent pole out into a vertical position until you can place the pull pins through the brackets and tent poles. This locks the tent pole into position.

- 4.** Your WilderNest is equipped with two "V" shaped aluminum brackets. Slide these into the sleeves located at each tent peak. When the tent is completely assembled, these brackets give shape to the vents at each end of the tent to provide proper ventilation while also creating an overhang.



FULL SIZED CAMPERS: (This only applies to those who have their WilderNest on a full size truck.)

Kneel on the edge of the bed and push up on the middle of the tent ridge pole (or you may push each end a little at a time so the pole does not bind). When a hole on the vertical part of the tent pole becomes exposed, slip in the pin from



the vent bracket to hold that end of the pole in place. Repeat at the other side of the camper.

COMPACT SIZED CAMPERS: (This applies if your WilderNest is on a compact or mini sized truck.)



Kneel on the edge of the bed and push up on the middle of the tent ridge pole (or you may push each end a little at a time so the pole does not bind). As you push the pole upward a first hole will appear. Keep pushing up on the pole until a second (or lower) hole appears. When the lower hole appears slip in the pull pin attached to the string hanging from the tent pole.

Repeat on the other side. This holds the tent pole in place. Now slip in the pin from the vent bracket to the upper hole. Repeat on the other side. This gives shape to the vent at each end of the tent.

- 5.** To prevent flapping of the tent and to increase interior volume, place the fiberglass wands between the horizontal sections of the tent



poles. Slightly bend the wands so you can place the ends in the holes provided on each horizontal section of the tent poles. The longer wands will fit between the poles over the mattress. (Note: the full sized camper utilizes four wands while the compact sized camper utilizes two wands.) Once the wands are in, snap them in place with the web loop you will find sewn to the tent. You will notice that your tent material will expand and contract due to weather conditions. Should the wands ever

loosen, simply tighten the section of webbing which has been sewn into the tent around the top of both side tent poles.

- 6.** Outrigger poles have been provided to help level the bed when parked on uneven ground, to take bed sway out of the suspension system, and to help stabilize the bed in high winds. The outrigger poles are not necessary to support the bed.



To install your outrigger poles, slide out the pull pins from the pointed end of the poles and place the poles through the brackets on the side of the bed. Now replace the pull pins to secure the poles in the brackets. Adjust the height of the poles and use the hose clamps to secure the poles at the proper height. On soft ground,

place a flat rock or board under each outrigger to prevent settling into the ground.

- 7.** A tie-down strap has been provided to keep the bed securely in place when camping in high wind situations. On the outside of the truck, position the tie-down strap by placing one



of the hooks over the outside lip of the bed and the other to the fender or wheel of the truck. Pull the webbing end until it is taut.

- 8.** Pull the rainskirt over the edge of the bed and attach the buckles under each corner. Pull tension on the rainskirt by pulling on the end of the webbing. Be sure the rain skirt is pulled over the bed near the hinges before tightening the webbing as this will insure that no water can enter the inside of the camper. Please note that you may prefer to attach the rainskirt immediately after opening the camper's lid - especially in rainy weather.

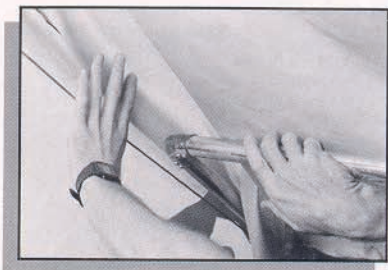


Folding Up Your WilderNest Camper

Putting away the WilderNest is mostly a reverse of the setup procedure.

- 1.** Remove the fiberglass wands and store them underneath the mattress. Zipper close all window and vent openings. Climbing onto the bed, remove the pull pins from the tent pole at the outer edge of the camper and swing the pole back down against the mattress making sure the tent fabric has been freed from the corners of the pole (failure to free the fabric from the tent pole corners could result in ripping or damaging the tent when closing the camper). Buckle this pole in place with the two straps provided so that it will hold the mattress in place.
- 2.** While still on the bed, remove the pull pins and/or "V" shaped aluminum brackets from the tent pole and remove the brackets from their sleeves. Lower the center ridge pole as far as it will go.

- 3.** Now attach the four buckles on the front of the headliner and start the zipper about 4 inches. (It is important that you do this before you lower the tent pole on the driver's side, especially on the short bed version where this pole could swing down too far and hit the rear window if closed.) Slide your privacy curtains to the center of the bed so they won't get caught in the springs when you close or re-



open your camper. Remove the pull pins from the driver's side tent pole and lower the pole making sure the tent material has been taken off the pole corners and that it clears the cable. It is very important that both of the side tent poles clear the cables to the inside. If the pole gets caught on the cable when being lowered, simply push the cable towards the tent material to free it. If the poles are lowered on top of the cables you will have difficulty closing the

camper and you may cause damage to both the tent and fiberglass if you attempt to force it closed.

- 4.** Zip closed the headliner as you back out of the truck. Buckle the four snaps at the rear of the headliner.

- 5.** On the outside of the truck, unbuckle the rainskirt and pull it up. Remove the outrigger poles and tie-down strap.

- 6.** Standing at the edge of the extended bed, push the top over by walking it forward with straight arms. An alternative method of



closing the lid is to attach the 18' nylon throwover strap to the ring at the center of the tent between the two latches. Throw the strap over to the other side of the tent and walk to the driver's side of the camper. By slipping your hand through the loop on the end of the strap and walking backwards while facing the truck, using body weight versus arm strength, the top can easily be "walked closed".



Tuck the tent in as completely as possible. On some trucks it may be necessary to stand in the open doorway or on the tailgate to accomplish this. With the tent tucked in, pull down the top until you can close and secure the clamps. Remember that the clamps are in the wide open position when the latch has been fully opened. It is important to note that the arms on the draw down latches are adjustable. **YOU NEED TO PERIODICALLY CHECK THEIR POSITION OR THEY MAY OVERTIGHTEN OR FALL OFF.**

Check to make sure no tent material hangs outside the lip seal around the top of the camper. Inside, tuck any loose ends and pull pins above the headliner.

- 7.** If you put away the WilderNest when the tent is wet, open the tent up and dry it out as soon as possible.

Installing Your Accessories

- 1.** TAILGATE CURTAIN:

The tailgate curtain attaches to the back opening of your truck with velcro. It allows you to keep the rear window up and the rear gate down while maintaining privacy and also acts as a mosquito screen and rain cover.



When properly installed, you will be able to close your rear window and gate without removing the tailgate curtain.

To install your tailgate cover simply affix the self adhering velcro which comes attached to the tailgate cover around the inside frame of the camper's window. Repeat this process along

the inside edge of the truck's tailgate jam. The exact positioning of the velcro will vary from truck to truck. In some instances it will be necessary to place the tape on the side wall of the tailgate jam. (In most cases your dealer will have done this for you.)

The tailgate curtain is installed from inside the camper with the mosquito screen toward the inside of the truck and the rubberized seal at the bottom. Starting at either end, attach the two sides of the

velcro to each other and work towards the other end until the curtain is fully installed. The elastic cord provided with each curtain is used to hold the base of the curtain against the truck's bed. Attach it by running the cord around the truck tailgate hinges and connecting the plastic hooks to the loops sewn into the bottom of the curtain.

2. KITCHEN ORGANIZER:

The Kitchen Organizer provides a convenient place to store all kinds of things while camping. The kitchen organizer fits against the tent wall panel located above the camper's pass through window to the cab of your truck. To install it simply attach the four fastex buckles around the top and bottom of both the center and side tent poles. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE KITCHEN ORGANIZER SHOULD BE DETACHED AND STORED PRIOR TO CLOSING YOUR WILDERNEST CAMPER.



3. BEDDING AND CLOTHES HAMMOCK:

The bedding and clothes hammock provides a place to store your sleeping bags, pillows, or clothing. It hangs from the roof of the tent and can be installed either above the sleeping berth or above the truck's bed.



To install the hammock, attach the side with the shorter straps to the tent pole above the huge zip down window. Attach the three short straps to the horizontal part of the pole and the two short straps to the vertical part of the pole. This keeps the hammock from creeping toward the center when you put things in it. Now attach the

side with the three long straps to the horizontal part of the center pole. These long straps allow you to adjust the hammock as needed and will allow you to loosen the hammock to install or remove the fiberglass wands.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE BEDDING & CLOTHES HAMMOCK CAN BE FOLDED INTO THE CAMPER WHEN CLOSING AND DOES NOT HAVE TO BE REMOVED OR STORED. CLOTHING AND OTHER ITEMS SHOULD BE REMOVED FROM THE HAMMOCK PRIOR TO CLOSING OR THEY MAY CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE HEADLINER.

Seam Sealing and Service

- 1.** Seam sealing: Like all tents, the WilderNest must be thoroughly seam sealed to make the system waterproof. You may use the seam sealer provided or for future applications you may consider any number of products on the market. Contact your dealer for a list of recommended products.

The main seam along the center ridge pole and the center seam that runs down the angled part of the roof have been sealed at the factory.

To seam seal the rest of your tent run a bead of seam sealer on the outside of tent along all exposed seams. Take particular care to get a good seal along the seam where the tent is attached to the camper; along the rainskirt; along the bottom seam of the huge zip down side windows (seal this seam on both sides of the mosquito screen); and the side window vents.

We recommend you visually check your seams occasionally and repeat the seam sealing process as needed. This will vary greatly depending on amount of use and climatic conditions.

- 2.** Service:
Very little regular service is required to keep your WilderNest operating smoothly. Here are a few suggestions which will help maximize the performance and durability of your camper.
 - Keep your counter balance springs and tents poles well lubricated. Use a teflon based dry lubricating spray on the springs and the tent poles. This should be done frequently for best results.
 - After each trip, inspect the cables for signs of fraying or wear. At the same time, check all cable attachment points and make sure all bolts and screws are tight.
 - To maintain the exterior quality of your camper keep it clean and waxed with a regular car wax containing a UV inhibitor. Boat waxes are not recommended as they may contain abrasives which will scratch the surface of your WilderNest.
 - If you aren't going to use your WilderNest for several months we suggest you occasionally open the latches and keep the bulb seal around the lid lubricated with a silicone spray so it doesn't dry out or crack.
 - Occasionally lubricate the five exterior hinges with silicone spray or a petroleum based spray like WD-40.

The WilderNest Limited Warranty

WHAT THIS WARRANTY COVERS

Your WilderNest Camper is warranted to be free from all defects in material and workmanship in normal camping use FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR. The warranty is granted only to the original purchaser.

Any warranty that may be implied in connection with your purchase or use of the camper, including any warranty of MERCHANTABILITY or any warranty for FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, is limited to the duration of this warranty. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations may not apply to you.

Your relief for the breach of this warranty is limited to the relief expressly provided above. IN NO EVENT SHALL WILDERNEST BE LIABLE FOR ANY CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES THAT YOU MAY INCUR IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR PURCHASE OR USE OF THE CAMPER. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusion may not apply to you.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary by state.

WHAT THIS WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER

- Damages or malfunctions caused by negligence, abuse, or use not in accordance with the Owner's Manual.
- Defects or damages caused by unauthorized service.

WHAT WILDERNEST CORPORATION WILL DO

WilderNest Corporation will, at its option, repair or replace a defective camper or camper part that is covered by this warranty. As a matter of warranty policy, WilderNest Corporation will not refund the consumer's purchase price.

OBTAINING WARRANTY SERVICE

To obtain warranty service you must bring the defective camper along with proof of purchase to any WilderNest Authorized Warranty Service Station in the U.S.A. Call or write to WilderNest Corporation headquarters listed below to obtain the location of the nearest authorized repair center.



WILDERNEST CORPORATION

PO BOX 1447, BROOMFIELD, CO 80020-8447 (303)465-4247 (800)432-NEST

WILDERNEST CORPORATION

PO BOX 1447, BROOMFIELD, CO 80020-8447 (303)465-4247 (800)432-NEST