**Battery**

How long should a battery last?

* Batteries do not last very long, usually 2 to 4 years

Should my vehicle be charging the battery while driving, or should it only be charging when I return home and I connect it to the charger?

* My tent trailer's onboard battery charger doesn't work very well when plugged into the truck (when driving).  You can test with a **voltage meter** by checking the amps on the battery before starting the truck and afterwards to see if you have a voltage increase.  Because of this reason, I use the following procedure to keep the battery fresh.
* I have a battery charger on my workbench and before the season I plug the trailer battery in for several days to get a full charge.
* After the battery leaves my workbench, I only attach the red/power (+) side of the battery.  It keeps a full charge that way.  Once I am at my destination I hook up the negative side (black / **-** ) and can use my battery.  Once I am ready to move to a new location, I disconnect the negative side in transit.  (My onboard trailer battery charger works when I plug into 110, so I always put the negative wire back on to recharge when at home or a campground with 110.)

**Solar Panel**

Do you have a solar panel connected to your battery during the course of the day? If so , how does it work and what do you recommend?

* I also have a solar panel that I made a pvc stand for that I can set in the sun to charge while camping.  Highly recommend this!  I also have a led voltage reader that I put across my two battery leads so I can easily read the battery state while camping.

**Shower**

* I use the hot and cold faucets exterior of the tent trailer.  I changed the faucet to accept a plug in shower head...kind of like a garden hose nozzle.  I bought a pop up shower tent so you can shower outside the tent trailer.

**Refrigerator**:

* Refrigerator should be 3 way, works when you plug in on 110 Volts, driving on battery 14 V, and propane when parked.  You have to select which power source on the refrigerator controls.

**Heater**:

* Open the valve on the propane tank. Open valve in the tent trailer side compartment. Select gas. Light the pilot lite.