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## RVs are good for more than travelling

OKEMOS, Mich.—Instead of "recreation vehicle," perhaps RV should stand for "recreation versatility." Camping is just one family pastime to partake in an RV, but there are many more uses for Americans' favorite home away from home.

**Sports**—No matter what kind of outdoor activity or sport you and your family enjoy, chances are there is an RV that can accommodate the equipment. Snowmobiling, skiing, mountain biking or paddling a canoe, there's room for it in your RV. Toy haulers provide the most space, but your travel trailer or motorhome works too!

**Travel teams**—Love watching your child participate in travel league sports, but not the costs of staying at hotels? Set up next to a hockey rink or soccer field, RVs are a great way for parents and players to relax between games, keep expenses down and if a caravan begins, develop a strong bond between player's families.

**Tailgating**—Take tailgating to a whole new level in an RV. There is no need to worry about your ice melting, trying to find a clean restroom or looking for a place to cook your meals. With an RV, everything is right within your reach! With many RVs offering outdoor entertainment systems, you don't even need tickets to the game.

NASCAR—As many avid RVers and auto racing fans know, NASCAR can be best enjoyed with the company of their RV. With refreshments handy and special parking in camping areas convenient to the track, NASCAR and RV fans are able to enjoy the best of both worlds. Michigan International Speedway is the largest registered campground in Michigan and many take advantage of this to watch the popular NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races.

**Day trips**—Take your family on a day trip to a museum, zoo, area festival, scenic drive, or shopping at the outlet malls. You'll save money by preparing your own meals and snacks, and there's plenty of room for souvenirs!

Sale-ing away—Use an RV to find and store treasures galore during the US 12 Heritage Trail Garage Sale, aka Michigan's Longest Garage Sale, 180 miles full of deals and steals from New Buffalo to Detroit or the Blue Water area's annual Antique Yard Sale Trail, stretching 150 miles from the New Baltimore area along the Lake Huron and Saginaw Bay shoreline to Pour Austin.

**Outdoorsman's cabin**—No more dark nights in a drafty, rustic cabin. After a long day in the woods or fields, return to your thermally controlled RV and relax. Your RV's kitchen is also ideal for cleaning, preparing and freezing small game and fish.

**Guesthouse**—Visit family and friends and stay in the comfort of your own RV. No more long nights on Aunt Edna's lumpy couch—your RV has a king size bed, extra space for the

kids and much needed privacy. Better yet, use as a guesthouse when friends and family visit you.

**Volunteering**—Volunteer with your RV and turn it into a soup kitchen on wheels, mobile campaign headquarters or a traveling donation center, collecting items for local charities.

The Michigan Association of Recreation Vehicles and Campgrounds (MARVAC) is a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to encouraging growth in the recreation vehicle and private campground industries while contributing to the quality of Michigan tourism. For more information, visit MARVAC's website, <a href="www.michganrvandcampgrounds.org">www.michganrvandcampgrounds.org</a>. MARVAC, 2222 Association Drive, Okemos, Mich. 48864-5978; 517.349.8881.

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