

# ST. CROIX TRAILERS MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

## Quick-Reference Maintenance Guide

**Applies to:** Custom food trailers, concession trailers, BBQ trailers, enclosed commercial trailers, contractor trailers, cargo trailers, mobile business trailers, and specialty builds.

**Company:** St. Croix Trailers

**Address:** 15625 95th Street North, Stillwater, MN 55082

**Phone:** (651) 300-9730

**Website:** [www.stcroixtrailers.com](http://www.stcroixtrailers.com)

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## Important Notice

This Maintenance Checklist is a quick-reference guide only. It does not replace the full **St. Croix Trailers Owner's Manual**, component manufacturer manuals, tow vehicle owner's manual, hitch/coupler instructions, axle/brake/tire manuals, generator manuals, propane appliance manuals, fire suppression manuals, or applicable laws, codes, and inspection requirements.

Because each St. Croix Trailers build may be custom, not every item listed will apply to every trailer. The owner/operator is responsible for inspecting, maintaining, and safely operating the trailer and all installed equipment.

If any instruction in this checklist conflicts with a component manufacturer's instructions, applicable law, code, inspection authority, or qualified professional recommendation, the stricter or more specific requirement should be followed.

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## 1. Before Every Tow

Complete this inspection before moving the trailer.

### Hitch, Coupler, and Connection

- Coupler is fully seated on the hitch ball and locked
  - Hitch ball, pintle, fifth wheel, or gooseneck connection is properly rated
  - Safety pin or coupler lock is installed
  - Safety chains are connected and crossed where applicable
  - Safety chains are not dragging
  - Breakaway cable is connected to the tow vehicle separately from the safety chains
  - Breakaway battery is charged and connected
  - 7-way plug is fully connected
  - Trailer jack is fully raised
  - Jack foot, drop leg, or landing gear is secured
  - Electric jack operates properly, if equipped
  - Electric jack battery connections are secure
  - Manual override for electric jack is present and functional
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## **Tires, Wheels, and Axles**

- Tire pressure checked while tires are cold
  - Tires inspected for cracks, bulges, cuts, or uneven wear
  - Tread depth is acceptable
  - Valve stems are not cracked or leaking
  - Lug nuts are checked and torqued as required
  - Wheels are inspected for cracks or damage
  - Spare tire is mounted and inflated
  - No abnormal tire heat, brake smell, or wheel noise is present
  - Trailer sits level when connected to tow vehicle
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## **Brakes and Breakaway System**

- Brake controller is connected and functioning
  - Trailer brakes engage properly at low speed
  - Brake controller gain is adjusted for current trailer load
  - Breakaway switch is intact
  - Breakaway cable is not wrapped around safety chains
  - Brake wiring is not hanging, pinched, or damaged
  - No brake warning lights or obvious brake issues are present
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## **Lights and Electrical Connection**

- Running lights work
  - Brake lights work
  - Turn signals work
  - Reverse lights work, if equipped
  - Clearance lights work
  - Side marker lights work
  - License plate light works
  - Sequential lights operate correctly, if equipped
  - 7-way cord is not dragging or damaged
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## **Doors, Windows, Ramps, and Exterior Openings**

- Entry doors are closed and locked
  - Concession windows are closed and latched
  - Service doors are closed and latched
  - Storage compartments are closed and latched
  - Generator compartment is secured
  - Propane compartment is secured
  - Ramp door is closed and latched, if equipped
  - Porch gate, smoker deck, or rear platform is secured, if equipped
  - Roof hatches and vents are closed
  - Exterior panels, trim, and accessories are secure
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## **Interior Equipment and Cargo**

- Refrigerators and freezers are secured
  - Cooking equipment is secured
  - Prep tables and counters are secured
  - Sinks and plumbing fixtures are secure
  - Shelving and cabinets are latched
  - Fire extinguishers are mounted securely
  - Loose tools, supplies, food, and inventory are secured
  - Customer-owned equipment is secured
  - No heavy items are loose inside the trailer
  - Weight appears properly distributed
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## **Plumbing and Tanks**

- Fresh water tank is secured
  - Grey water tank is secured
  - Black water tank is secured, if equipped
  - Tank levels are appropriate for travel
  - Water pump is off before towing, unless required otherwise
  - Water heater is off before towing, unless required otherwise
  - Drain caps are installed
  - No visible leaks are present
  - Water lines are protected from freezing when applicable
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## **Propane System**

- Propane tanks are secured upright
  - Propane tank valves are closed for travel unless system requires otherwise
  - Hoses and pigtails are not cracked, kinked, or damaged
  - Regulator is secured
  - No propane odor is present
  - Appliances are turned off before travel
  - Propane compartment ventilation is clear
  - Fire extinguisher is accessible
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## **Generator and Power System**

- Generator is secured
  - Generator door, slide tray, or compartment is latched
  - Fuel level is checked
  - Oil level is checked as required
  - Generator battery connections are secure
  - Exhaust area is clear
  - Shore power cord is disconnected and stored
  - No cords, hoses, or stabilizers are still connected to the trailer
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## **2. After First 10–25 Miles on a New Trailer**

For new trailers, newly serviced trailers, or trailers with recently removed wheels:

- Stop in a safe location and inspect hitch connection
  - Recheck safety chains
  - Recheck breakaway cable
  - Recheck 7-way plug
  - Recheck lug nuts
  - Check tire temperature by feel or infrared thermometer
  - Check for unusual brake smell
  - Check for unusual noises
  - Check doors, windows, and compartments
  - Confirm cargo and equipment have not shifted
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### **3. After First 50–100 Miles**

- Re-torque lug nuts according to wheel/axle manufacturer specifications
  - Inspect tires for uneven wear
  - Inspect suspension components
  - Inspect brake operation
  - Inspect hitch/coupler for wear or looseness
  - Inspect frame, tongue, or gooseneck area visually
  - Inspect doors, hinges, and latches
  - Inspect exterior trim and panels
  - Inspect equipment mounts
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## **4. Weekly Maintenance During Active Use**

### **General Trailer**

- Wash exterior as needed
- Clean interior surfaces
- Inspect flooring for damage, lifting, cracks, or soft spots
- Inspect wall panels and seams
- Inspect stainless/aluminum panels for loose fasteners
- Inspect doors and seals
- Inspect concession window seals and latches
- Inspect roof vents and hatches
- Inspect stabilizer jacks, if equipped
- Lubricate hinges and latches as needed

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## Electrical

- Inspect breaker panel
  - Inspect fuse box, if equipped
  - Confirm fuses are properly seated
  - Replace blown fuses only with the correct rating
  - Test GFCI outlets
  - Inspect shore power cord
  - Inspect generator cord or inlet
  - Check battery voltage, if equipped
  - Confirm lights are working
  - Inspect visible wiring for damage
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## Plumbing

- Check for leaks under sinks
  - Check water pump operation
  - Check water heater operation
  - Inspect water lines and fittings
  - Inspect drain lines
  - Clean strainers and sink drains
  - Confirm tanks are secure
  - Flush grey water tank as needed
  - Flush black water tank as needed, if equipped
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## Propane

- Inspect tank mounts
  - Inspect hoses and pigtails
  - Inspect regulator
  - Confirm shutoff valves are accessible
  - Check for propane odor
  - Keep propane compartment clean and vented
  - Do not operate propane equipment if a leak is suspected
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## Food Trailer / Concession Equipment

- Clean hood filters, if equipped
  - Check hood fan operation
  - Check make-up air operation, if equipped
  - Check refrigeration temperatures
  - Check freezer temperatures
  - Check cooking equipment operation
  - Inspect fire suppression system indicators
  - Confirm fire extinguishers are charged and accessible
  - Clean floor and wall seams
  - Clean under equipment
  - Inspect screens, windows, and service openings
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## 5. Monthly Maintenance

- Inspect frame and visible welds
  - Inspect tongue, coupler, gooseneck, or fifth wheel structure
  - Inspect suspension hardware
  - Inspect axle mounts
  - Inspect brake wiring
  - Inspect tires for uneven wear
  - Inspect wheels for cracks or damage
  - Inspect spare tire
  - Inspect exterior fasteners
  - Inspect roof seams and sealant
  - Inspect window and door sealant
  - Inspect underbody for corrosion, damage, or loose components
  - Inspect tank straps and mounts
  - Inspect generator compartment
  - Inspect battery box and connections
  - Inspect shore power inlet
  - Inspect all major equipment mounts
  - Lubricate moving parts as required
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## 6. Every 6 Months

- Inspect and service wheel bearings as required
  - Inspect brakes and brake shoes/pads as required
  - Inspect drums, hubs, and brake assemblies
  - Inspect suspension equalizers, shackles, bolts, and bushings
  - Inspect breakaway battery and switch
  - Inspect wiring under trailer
  - Inspect frame coating or paint
  - Inspect roof sealant and reseal as needed
  - Inspect wall, trim, and window sealant
  - Inspect propane system for leaks using approved methods
  - Inspect fire suppression system, if equipped
  - Service generator according to manufacturer instructions
  - Service HVAC according to manufacturer instructions
  - Inspect plumbing for leaks, movement, or freeze damage
  - Inspect water heater and pump
  - Inspect flooring seams and wall transitions
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## 7. Annual Maintenance

- Complete full trailer inspection
- Service wheel bearings as required
- Inspect and service brakes
- Inspect axles and suspension
- Inspect tires and replace if aged, worn, or damaged
- Inspect wheels and lug hardware
- Inspect coupler, hitch, safety chains, and breakaway system
- Inspect roof and reseal as needed
- Inspect exterior seams and trim
- Inspect underbody and frame coating
- Inspect electrical panel and circuits
- Inspect GFCI protection
- Inspect generator and service as required
- Inspect propane system by qualified person as needed
- Inspect plumbing system
- Inspect tanks and tank mounts
- Inspect food-service equipment
- Inspect hood and exhaust system
- Complete required fire suppression inspection, if equipped
- Complete required health, fire, or local inspections if applicable
- Review Owner's Manual and component manuals

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## 8. Seasonal / Winterization Checklist

Before freezing temperatures:

- Drain fresh water tank
  - Drain grey water tank
  - Drain black water tank, if equipped
  - Drain water heater according to manufacturer instructions
  - Drain or blow out water lines
  - Add approved RV antifreeze where appropriate
  - Protect pump, valves, traps, and fixtures
  - Disconnect or maintain batteries
  - Store propane safely
  - Inspect roof before snow accumulation
  - Check tires before long-term storage
  - Use wheel chocks
  - Cover or protect trailer as appropriate
  - Inspect for rodents or pest entry points
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## 9. Maintenance Log

Date	Mileage	Work Performed	Performed By	Notes
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# 10. Owner Acknowledgment

I understand that this Maintenance Checklist is a quick-reference guide only and does not replace the St. Croix Trailers Owner's Manual, component manufacturer instructions, professional service recommendations, or applicable laws and inspection requirements.

**Owner Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trailer VIN:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Trailer Size / Model:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**St. Croix Trailers Maintenance Checklist — Version 1.4 — Updated May 2026**