



U.S. Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

**DOT Auto Safety Hotline**  
**Vehicle Owner's Questionnaire**  
To Report Vehicle Safety Defects  
1-888-DASH-2-DOT  
(1-888-327-4236)  
INTERNET: www.nhtsa.dot.gov/hotline

FOR AGENCY USE ONLY 100148

Date Received  
15-SEP-2017  
NOV - 1 2017

Repository   
Reference No.  
11023636

**OWNER INFORMATION (Type or Print)**

Name [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
City CARLSBAD State NM Zip Code [REDACTED]

Daytime Telephone Number [REDACTED] E-mail Address [REDACTED]  
Evening Telephone Number [REDACTED]

The information you provide will be used to identify potential safety-related defects. We may share your information with the applicable vehicle manufacturer during an investigation or recall in accordance with the routine uses described in the agency's Privacy Act notice. See 49 FR 53971 (Sep. 3, 2004).

**VEHICLE INFORMATION**

17 digit Vehicle Identification Number Located at bottom of windshield on driver's side  
4X4TRPT16JL [REDACTED]

Make FOREST RIVER Model R-POD 176 Model Year 2017  
2018

Date Purchased 7/27/17 Dealer's Name and Telephone Number Great Escapes RV Center 870-471-9471 Engine: No: Cylinders Fuel Type:

Original Owner  Dealer's City Gassville State AR Zip Code 72635

Transmission Type  Antilock Brakes Powertrain Multiple Failure: Incident Date(s) 08-SEP-2017  
 Cruise Control

**FAILED COMPONENT(S)/PART(S) INFORMATION**

Vehicle Component Code: 162000 STRUCTURE: BODY Failure Mileage 1000 Failure Speed 50 mph

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A TIRE FAILURE**

Tire Make [REDACTED] Tire Model (Name or Number) [REDACTED] Tire Size (Example P215/65R15)

DOT No. (Example: DOTM19ABC036)  Original Equipment  Prior Repair Failure Location:

Tire Component Code [REDACTED] Tire Failure Type: [REDACTED]

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE COMPLETED WHEN REPORTING A CHILD SEAT FAILURE**

Make: [REDACTED] Date Manufactured: [REDACTED] Model No./Name: [REDACTED]

Seat Type: [REDACTED] Installation System: [REDACTED]

Child Seat Component Code: [REDACTED] Failed Part: [REDACTED]

**APPLICABLE INCIDENT INFORMATION**

(Please describe in detail the incident(s), failure(s), crash(es), and injury(ies).)

Crash  Yes  No Fire  Yes  No Number of Persons Injured [REDACTED] Number of Deaths [REDACTED] Reported to Police N

**Narrative Description of Incident(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies).**  
Please describe (1) events leading up to the failure, (2) failure and its consequences, and (3) what was done to correct the failure; i.e., parts repaired or replaced (and if old part is available).

TL\* THE CONTACT OWNS A 2018 (NA) FOREST RIVER R-POD 176 TRAVEL TRAILER. WHILE DRIVING, THE BLACK WATER TANK PIPE DETACHED AND DRAGGED ON THE GROUND WITHOUT WARNING. AS A RESULT, THE VALVE LEAKED OF SEWAGE. THE CONTACT INDEPENDENTLY REPLACED THE VALVE, THE TERMINATION CAP, AND THE THREE INCH BAYONET AND DOUBLE WACK-NUT. THE DEALER WAS NOT CONTACTED. THE VEHICLE WAS NOT DIAGNOSED. THE VEHICLE WAS REPAIRED. THE MANUFACTURER WAS NOTIFIED OF THE FAILURE AND STATED THAT, DUE TO THE CONTACT NOT PROVIDING PROOF OF THE FAILURE BEFORE THE REPLACEMENT, THEY COULD NOT ASSIST. THE APPROXIMATE FAILURE MILEAGE WAS 1,000. I no longer have the receipts for the repair but I sent copies to the manufacturer forest river, this particular problem has been reported by other owners of various R-pod models on the R-pod owners forum. This is not an isolated incident and is an on-going problem. A 3" sewage pipe being drug down the highway, or being dropped in roadway could be a serious accident potential.

Include, if available: Police/Fire Department Report, Photos, and Repair Invoice. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

The Privacy Act of 1974-Public Law 93-579 This information is requested pursuant to authority vested in the National Highway Traffic Safety Act and subsequent amendments. You are under no obligation to respond this questionnaire. Your response may be used to assist the NHTSA in determining whether a Manufacturer should take appropriate action to correct a safety defect. If the NHTSA proceeds with administrative enforcement or litigation against a manufacturer, your response, or a statistical summary thereof, may be used in support of the agency's action.

**Narrative Description of Incident(s), Failure(s), Crash(es), and Injury(ies)**

While pulling the R-pod down out of mountains, a car drove up beside me and yelled I was dragging something. I pulled over and discovered the 3" sewage pipe bracket had failed from an improperly installed nut/bolt. The end of the pipe and shut-off valve were destroyed and leaking sewage. Later when I got home and replaced the parts I had to dump raw sewage on the ground in order to replace the damaged parts. All problems caused by proper installation of a bolt and locking nut. This is an on-going problem at Forest River and has been reported many times in R pod forum online. This problem has the potential to cause a highway accident

ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY

U.S. Department of Transportation

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, D.C. 20077-9382

Official Business Penalty for Private Use \$300



NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF MAILED IN THE UNITED STATES

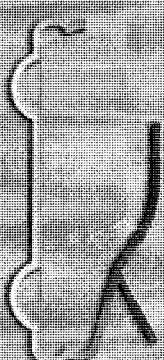
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US Department of Transportation  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
Office of Defects Investigation, NEF-100  
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE.  
Washington, D.C. 20077-9382




Think your vehicle has a safety defect?



If so:  
Use the enclosed form to file a report.

or visit:  
**www.safercar.gov**

or call:  
**Vehicle Safety Hotline  
888-327-4236**



Vehicle Defect Campaign (VDC) U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration