

## ROPE LIGHT DANGERS

DEAR EDITOR:

The September 2011 "Tech & Travel Tips" column (page 24) has a short piece titled "Easy Outdoor Lighting" that suggests using rope lighting around a campsite. Many folks use it for accent or safety reasons. However, if the rope lights are plugged into your coach and placed on the ground, you need to be careful. They can actually set up a ground grid for

lightning to follow right into your motorhome, bypassing any surge protection you may have on your AC power circuit. This happened to a friend of ours and it caused all kinds of havoc, starting with his inverter. Needless to say, we don't put rope lights out anymore unless they are connected directly to park power or are unplugged every night.

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