

Winter riding season is fast approaching, the Wössner North America Team wants to remind everyone of the importance of a healthy engine. Don't wait until your stuck on the trail before making sure of these basic items:

- Engine visual inspection – first check over your engine carefully for any obvious signs of leakage. Wet areas close to gasket or other sealing surfaces can point to a potential problem that is best to solve before you ride.
- Examine your fluids – this means fuel, oil, and coolant (if your engine is liquid cooled). The condition and health of these three will most always have an important impact on the initial start up and running before the season.
- Fuel should be drained and replaced with a high quality, and octane specific, type for your engine. Fuel that has sat in the tank for the summer season will most likely contain water or have evaporated leaving behind harmful additives that can have a corrosive effect on your engine.
- Oil should also be inspected for presence of water or contamination – and it's always best to start with fresh new oil, OE recommended or equivalent high quality, before initial startup. Take this time to also make sure the oil delivery system is both clean and operating to the OEM specification.
- Coolant – this liquid is one of the easiest to take for granted regarding the condition. Take the time to inspect and measure using a hydrometer.
- Airbox / Intake systems– check carefully for a clean intake system, such as carburetor condition, choke operation, and carefully inspect the intake boots near the reed cage / engine intake for dry checking or rotting, as this can cause an undetected air leak. Inspect the airbox for cleanliness and remove rodent or nests before starting the engine.
- Heat exchange – inspect for clogs or damage, or blockage from nests, insects, or mice.
- Exhaust power valves – inspect for proper operation, excess wear, and remove carbon build up.
- Spark plugs – always start the season with fresh spark plugs, changing these is always cheap insurance.
- Compression Test – for a healthy top end and trouble-free riding season, your top end should be checked for health. After checking and correcting the items above, you should have peace of mind that the top end will not be damaged from improper fuel, oil, coolant, or air intake, all feeding the top end with the correct amount of everything it needs. Follow the OEM service manual for the proper test, or have the top end checked by a qualified technician.

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