

Are you in violation of the National Electrical Code... will you get kicked out of a campground?

The updated National Electrical Code (NEC) of 2020 has declared that any voltage boosting transformer is in violation of the NFPA1192 code, allowing campgrounds to force you to disconnect the device or force you to leave their campground. Most states, counties, and cities have adopted the NEC/NFPA code in their local jurisdictions as law.

So, what is a boosting transformer: A Boosting Transformer is one which is used on a power line to raise the voltage to the desired value. (Do not confuse a Boosting Transformer with a Surge Protector.)

One of the most popular manufacturers is Hughes, which makes both boosting transformers (Autoformer) and Surge Protectors (SurgGuard). Some models include the Autoformer and Surge Protector into a single unit.



You generally would set them at the RV park power pedestal. The Autoformer power cord would connect into the pedestal power and your RV power cord would connect into the Autoformer. The original Autoformer only boosted low voltage on the RV parks power to your RV... the newer Autoformer now also includes a Surge Protector. **---these are the devices that are now prohibited---**

How does a Autoformer differ from a Surge Protector? Surge Protectors are designed to test the voltage and wiring of the RV pedestal and not allow your RV to connect to the pedestal if there is a problem. Once connected, if there was a large power surge on the line, would automatically disconnect your RV from the pedestal.



The Surge Protector connects the same way. The protector plugs into the park pedestal and your RV plugs into the protector. The electronics inside the protector analyze the voltage and wiring and decides if it is safe to connect your RV to the pedestal. **These devices are good to use and are not prohibited.**