

Ethanol Fuel or E10 Fuel

Ethanol fuel is up to 10% ethanol and ethanol can hold up to 100% of its volume of water. But it only takes 4 tablespoons of water per gallon to cause the ethanol to separate and this separation can cause big problems. This event is called "phase separation". Ethanol fuel can reach this point in just 3 months at 70% humidity. When this happens and the ethanol is at the bottom of your fuel tank and the gasoline is at the top, the gasoline's octane level can be reduced to less than 87. Most engines won't run on less than 87 octane. The ethanol in the bottom can clog filters and cause poor performance in your engine. Also, the ethanol has a corrosive nature that can affect fuel components causing them to fail.

Here are some things you can do to prevent this problem: install a 10 micron fuel water separator, keep your fuel tank full. If your engine and, therefore, your fuel has been sitting without use, pull a sample from your separator before use and dispose of all fuel if it has separated.

Use a good additive, one that has de-emulsifiers or hydrophobic additives to prevent water from homogenizing with fuel. Never use an additive that emulsifies water.

For recommended brands contact York Road Marine.



What's Your Keel?

Have you checked your mast rigging lately? Salt water, over time, can destroy your standing rigging and it should be inspected regularly to prevent a total loss of your mast. York Road Marine can inspect your rigging and advise you of any potential problems.

The Boat Guys @ York Road Marine

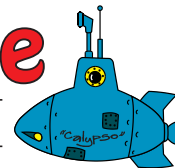
With a combined 75 years of experience The Boat Guys at York Road Marine keep up-to-date on all the latest marine changes and advancements so they can provide the best service and advice to their customers.

If you have any questions about the subject of this article please e-mail The Boat Guys at:

TheBoatGuys@YorkRoadMarine.com

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