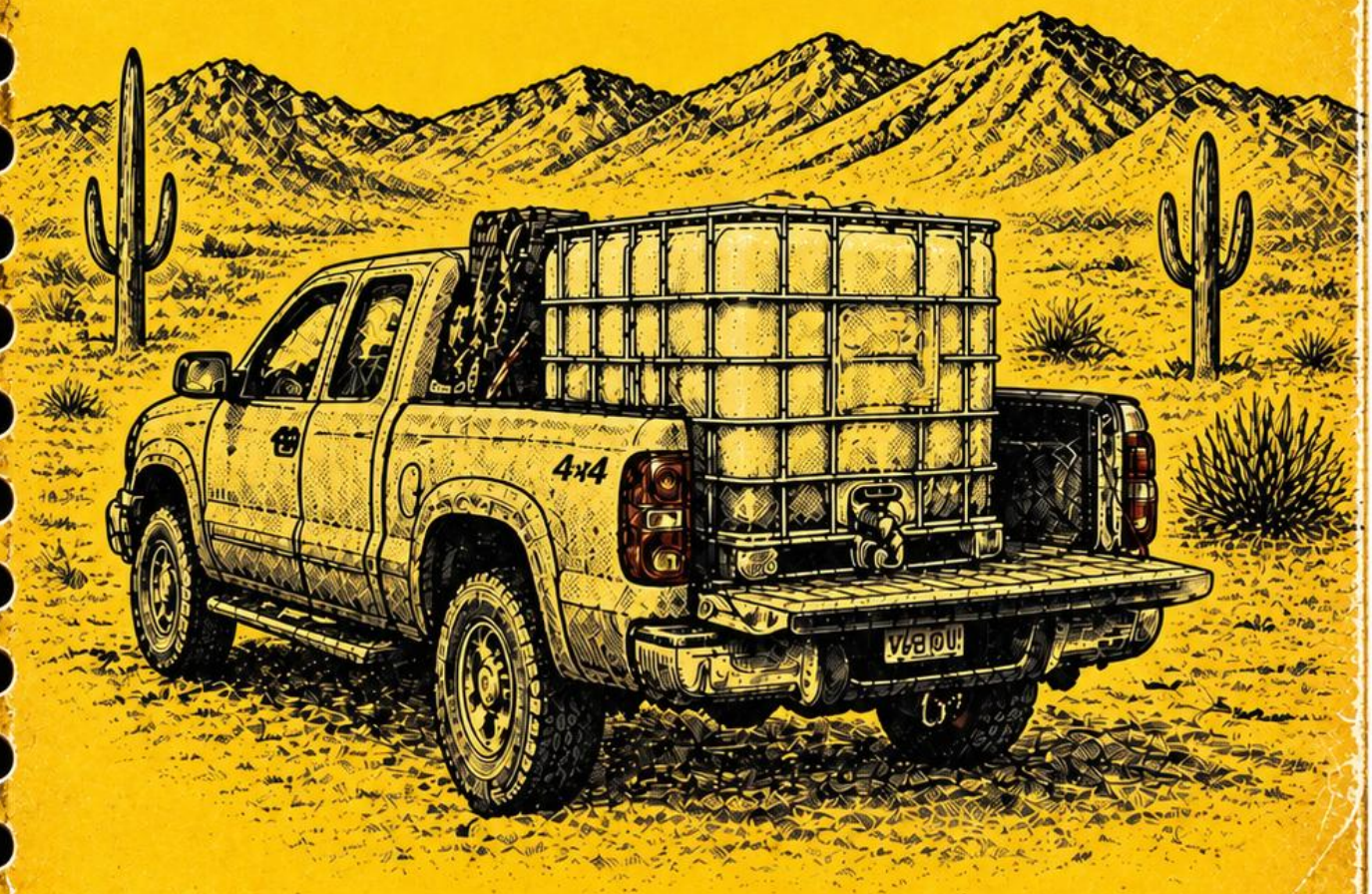
THE WATER HAULER'S CLIFF NOTES



Scott Lindstrom

In Between Ranch — Northern Arizona

WELCOME TO IN BETWEEN RANCH

- OFF-GRID LIVING IN THE SONORAN DESERT
  - NO CITY WATER
  - NO CITY POWER
  - NO PROBLEM
- WHY WATER HAULING MATTERS
  - WATER IS LIFE OUT HERE
  - EVERYTHING STARTS WITH WATER
  - PLAN AHEAD OR GO WITHOUT
- SCOTT'S STORY
  - DIVORCED
  - NOWHERE TO LIVE
  - ONE VACANT PIECE OF LAND
  - A TRUCK, A PLAN, AND A LOT OF HARD WORK

FOLLOW THE JOURNEY:

INBETWEFENRANCH.COM

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

- WATER CAPACITY
  - IBC TOTE = 275 GAL
  - FOOD GRADE ONLY
  - 330 GAL AVAILABLE
  - KNOW YOUR TANK SIZE
- TRUCK PAYLOAD
  - CHECK DOOR STICKER
  - SUBTRACT YOUR WEIGHT
  - DON'T EXCEED GVWR
  - SAFETY FIRST
- CONSUMPTION RATE
  - DRINKING: 1 GAL/PERSON/DAY
  - COOKING: 2 GAL/DAY
  - CLEANING: 5 GAL/DAY
  - TOTAL: ~10-15 GAL/DAY SOLO
- HAUL FREQUENCY
  - 275 GAL ÷ 15 GAL/DAY = ~18 DAYS
  - ROUND DOWN
  - HAUL EVERY 2 WEEKS
  - BUFFER FOR EMERGENCIES
- COST PER HAUL
  - WATER: $10-25
  - FUEL: $20-40
  - TOTAL: $30-65 PER TRIP
  - TRACK IT

PRE-HAUL CHECKLIST

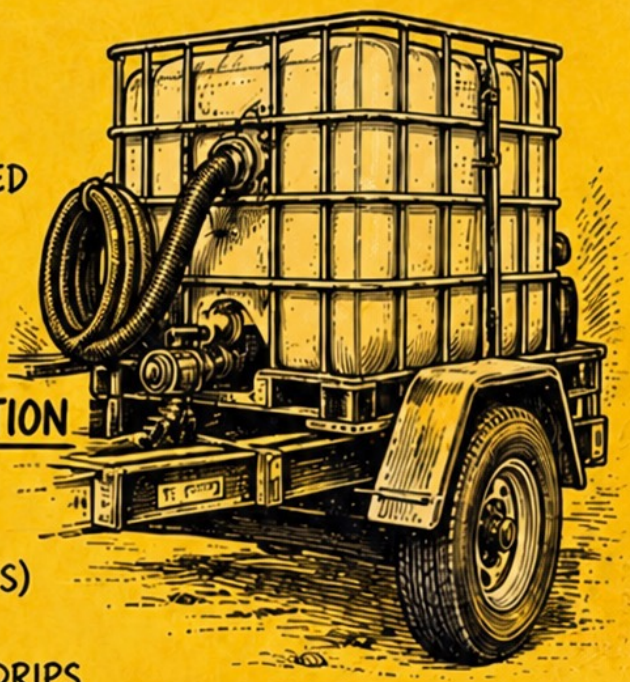
- ☐ 1. INSPECT TANK FOR CRACKS AND LEAKS
- ☐ 2. CLEAN AND SANITIZE TANK
- ☐ 3. CHECK TRUCK PAYLOAD CAPACITY
- ☐ 4. SECURE RATCHET STRAPS AND TIE-DOWNS



- ☐ 5. PACK BACKUP HOSE AND PUMP
- ☐ 6. BRING EXTRA FUEL FOR THE PUMP
- ☐ 7. MAP YOUR ROUTE TO THE WATER SOURCE
- ☐ 8. CHECK WEATHER AND ROAD CONDITIONS

LOADING & SECURING

BEFORE LOADING



- INSPECT TANK, HOSES, PUMP
- CHECK VALVES AND FITTINGS
- MAKE SURE TANK LID IS CLOSED
- CONFIRM WEIGHT RATING
- CHECK TIRE PRESSURE
- TEST LIGHTS

LOADING AT THE WATER STATION

- POSITION ON LEVEL GROUND
- CONNECT HOSE SECURELY
- FILL SLOWLY (WATCH FOR LEAKS)
- STOP AT TARGET GALLONS
- DISCONNECT AND CHECK FOR DRIPS

SECURING FOR TRANSPORT



- USE RATCHET STRAPS AROUND THE TOTE
- CHECK STRAPS AFTER 5-10 MILES
- MAKE SURE HOSE ENDS ARE CAPPED
- KEEP ITEMS FROM SHIFTING
- DOUBLE-CHECK BEFORE HITTING HIGHWAY

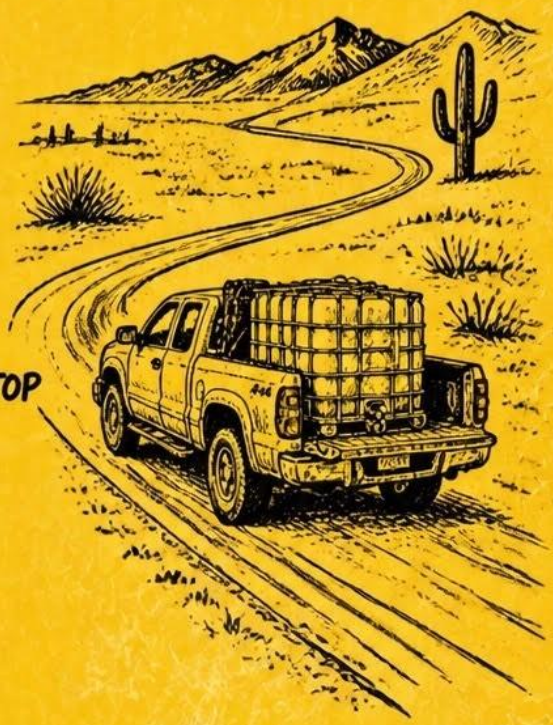
ARRIVAL AT HOME

- PARK ON LEVEL GROUND
- CHECK FOR LEAKS
- VERIFY GALLONS DELIVERED
- SECURE TANK AND EQUIPMENT
- DO A QUICK INSPECTION BEFORE UNLOADING

ON THE ROAD

DRIVE SMART

- KNOW YOUR ROUTE
- AVOID DIRT ROADS AFTER RAIN
- WATCH FOR LOW BRIDGES
- PLAN FOR TIGHT TURNS



SECURE THE LOAD

- DOUBLE-CHECK STRAPS AT EVERY STOP
- LISTEN FOR SPLASHING
- PULL OVER IF SOMETHING SHIFTS
- NEVER HAUL LOOSE

WEIGHT & HANDLING

- 275 GAL = 2,300 LBS
- EXPECT SLOWER BRAKING
- WIDER TURNS
- LOWER GEAR ON HILLS
- FEEL THE SLOSH

EMERGENCY KIT

- SPARE STRAPS
- DUCT TAPE
- FIRST AID
- FLARES
- PHONE CHARGER
- WATER FOR YOU
- FULL TANK OF GAS

IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG

- PULL OVER SAFE
- ASSESS THE LEAK
- PATCH WHAT YOU CAN
- CALL FOR HELP
- DON'T RISK IT

AT HOME: STORAGE & DISPENSING

STORAGE SETUP

- KEEP TOTE SHADED
- ELEVATE ON BLOCKS OR PALLET
- STRAP IT DOWN
- KEEP OUT OF DIRECT SUN



DISPENSING

- GRAVITY FEED OR 12V PUMP
- BALL VALVE FOR FLOW CONTROL
- FOOD-GRADE HOSE ONLY
- KEEP ENDS CLEAN

FREEZE PROTECTION

- WRAP HOSES
- INSULATE TOTE
- KEEP A DRIP GOING
- KNOW WHERE YOUR SHUTOFF IS

KEEP IT CLEAN

- SANITIZE TANK EVERY 90 DAYS
- BLEACH FLUSH: 1 CUP PER 275 GAL
- RINSE THOROUGHLY
- LET DRY

TRACK YOUR SUPPLY

- MARK THE TOTE LEVEL
- COUNT GALLONS USED
- KNOW YOUR BUFFER
- NEVER HIT ZERO

MISTAKES TO AVOID



ROOKIE MISTAKES

- OVERFILLING THE TOTE
- FORGETTING STRAPS
- USING NON FOOD-GRADE HOSE
- HAULING ON BALD TIRES
- IGNORING WEIGHT RATINGS

COSTLY MISTAKES

- NOT CALLING AHEAD
- NO BACKUP PUMP
- SKIMPING ON FUEL
- HAULING IN A STORM
- RUSHING THE FILL

DANGEROUS MISTAKES

- EXCEEDING GVWR
- HAULING UNSECURED
- DRINKING UNTREATED WATER
- NO EMERGENCY KIT
- DRIVING TIRED

THE DREAM RIG

- DUAL TOTES ON A TRAILER
- 12V PUMP W/ FILTER
- QUICK-CONNECT FITTINGS
- TOOLBOX MOUNTED
- TANK LEVEL GAUGE

RAINWATER BONUS

- GUTTERS → IBC TOTE
- FIRST FLUSH DIVERTER
- SCREEN FILTER
- 1000 SQ FT ROOF = 600 GAL PER INCH OF RAIN

THANK YOU

This Cliff Notes guide has a companion — the full Water Hauler's Survival Guide PDF. If you got value from this, visit:

inbetweeneranch.com/water-hauler

STAY CONNECTED

Instagram: @inbetweeneranch

Facebook: In Between Ranch

YouTube: In Between Ranch



30% OFF YOUR NEXT PURCHASE

PROMO CODE: WATER101

INBETWEENRANCH.COM



Thank You ☺

Check out The YouTube channel!

INBETWEENRANCH.COM