

Suburban Water Heater Anode Workshop

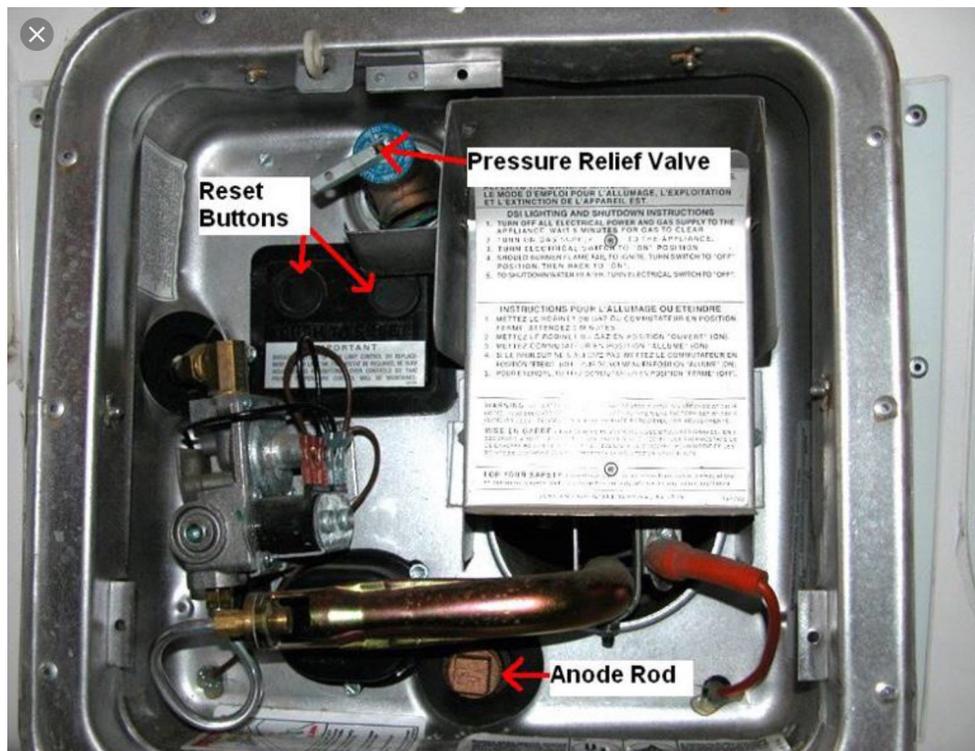


ANODE PROTECTION

The sacrificial magnesium Anode rod equalizes aggressive water action providing cathodic protection for the tank. The anode rod is a very important factor in tank life and should only be removed for inspection or draining. Replacement of the anode rod is recommended when consumption or weight loss is greater than 75%. With regular inspection and replacement of the anode rod, tank life can be greatly extended. Frequency on Anode replacement will vary depending on the water conditions and usage. Operating the water heater without the anode rod voids the manufacturer's limited warranty and shortens the tank life of the water heater.

In most conditions, anode rods should last at least one year. If your magnesium anode rod (part number 232767) does not last for one year, you may want to use an aluminum anode rod (part number 232768). Aluminum rods react slower and should be used only in situations where magnesium anode rods do not last one year.

ANODE ROD LOCATION



The anode rod can be located by opening the water heater's exterior access door. It is positioned in the bottom center of the water heater housing.†

† Suburban 676 Broadway Street, Dayton, TN 37321 - www.airxcel.com

PARTS & TOOLS REQUIRED:

- Magnesium Anode (part number 232767) OR Aluminum Anode (232768)
- 1 1/16" six point 1/2 drive socket
- 1/2" x 4" drive extension
- 1/2" drive breaker bar
- Teflon thread tape OR sealing compound that is approved for potable water
- Camco water heater rinser (optional)

ANODE ROD REMOVAL

1. Turn off water pump or water supply.
2. Turn off shore power (120 volt AC)
3. Turn off gas supply.
- 4. Allow water to cool before proceeding.**
5. Remove pressure from water system by opening valves on sink faucet.
6. Using the 1 1/16 socket, extension, and breaker bar, rotate Anode counterclockwise. This may require a lot of force to loosen Anode. Stand to the side as you continue to turn and remove Anode to avoid water splash as tank drains.
7. After tank has drained, flush sediment from tank using a tank rinser or squirting water into opening and allowing it to drain again. This may require multiple cycles.

ANODE INSTALL

1. Holding the Anode by the hex head, wrap Teflon tape counterclockwise two complete wraps.
2. Insert new Anode into drain opening and screw clockwise. Sometimes, I use the socket and extension to aid in aligning the threads. Care should be taken to not cross thread Anode. Hand tighten Anode to ensure threads are aligned. Use breaker bar to finish tightening Anode. NPT (National Pipe Tap) treads are tapered, so Anode should tighten in approximately two to three turns .
3. Turn on water supply or start pump. Allow tank to fill until water runs out of hot water side of faucet.
4. Check for leaks around Anode. If a leak occurs, tighten Anode. Worst case, you may need to repeat procedure and apply more tape or pipe compound to threads.
5. Turn on gas and electricity. **(only after tank has filled completely)**