



Above Ground Pool Winterizing Instructions



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Winterizing Preparation

It is important to close your pool in the best possible condition, to protect your pool, and make your spring pool opening much easier.

1. It is best to let the water temperature cool to 65 degrees or less before closing the pool.
2. Vacuum and skim any debris or sediment from pool. Brush walls, clean water line.
3. Remove and clean all accessories from pool; toys, floats, solar cover, and ladder or step.
4. Check for liner leaks. Water level must be maintained to support winter cover and pool walls throughout winter.

Chemical Balance & Winterizing Chemicals

1. Balance water chemistry – Sanitizer, Alkalinity, PH, and Calcium Hardness levels.
2. Add Natural Chemistry Spring & Fall Pool Magic, or an enzyme to remove organics and oils from water.
3. Adjust water to proper winterizing level. If using a skimmer winter plate, adjust water to half way up skimmer opening. If no skimmer winter plate, drain water 3" – 4" below opening of skimmer.
4. Add winter pool closing kit per instructions. One kit treats up to 15,000 gallons. A larger pool will need a larger winter kit, or two winter kits. Winter kits include: oxidizing shock treatment, winterizing algaecide, and a stain & scale or metal control.

Winterize Skimmer & Return Fitting

Installation of winter skimmer plate and return plug is needed to maintain the water level to support pool walls and winter cover.

1. Remove and clean all items from skimmer, basket and weir door. Turn off filter system.
2. Install winter skimmer plate or foam plate to skimmer faceplate.
3. Thread ice compensator gizzmo into skimmer to prevent damage from ice expansion.
4. Unthread diverter eye from return fitting. Be sure to remove all three pieces from return fitting; ring, diverter eye, and coupling. If coupling is stuck use removal tool to loosen.
5. Install either a #10 rubber expansion plug or 1 1/2" threaded plug into return fitting.

Winterize Filter

1. Turn electric off for filter system.
2. Remove all drain plugs from pump and filter tank, drain all water from filter system.
3. Place all drain plugs in hair & lint basket to locate in spring.
4. Disconnect and inspect all hoses and clamps.
5. Apply Lube Tube waterproof grease to all O-Rings to prevent dry rot.
6. Clean and store pump and filter tank inside out of winter weather to prevent freeze damage.
7. Soak filter cartridge in a chemical filter cartridge cleaner to degrease and remove fine particles. Dry and store for spring.
8. If Sand Filter, and not removing sand, add a Backwash Filter cleaner to clean sand before filter system is disconnected. When clean, add pool grade antifreeze to prevent winter freeze damage.

Winterize Automatic Chemical Feeder

1. Remove all drain plugs from chemical feeder, drain all water from feeder.
2. Place drain plugs in pump hair & lint basket to locate in spring.
3. Disconnect and inspect all hoses & clamps.
4. Apply Lube Tube waterproof grease to all O-Rings to prevent dry rot.
5. Clean and store automatic chemical feeder inside out of winter weather to prevent freeze damage.
6. If Frog System, remove mineral pac and discard to not mix up with new mineral pac in spring.

Winterize Heater

1. Turn off electric and gas supply to heater.
2. Remove drain plug from heater, drain all water from heater.
3. Blow out all water from heater with shop vac, or air compressor.
4. Reinstall drain plug.
5. Fill heater with pool grade antifreeze.
6. Plug heater inlet and outlet to keep pool grade antifreeze in heater.

Air Pillow

1. An air pillow is used to compensate for the ice in the pool to help freeze towards the center of the pool and take the ice pressure off of the pool walls.
2. A 4' pillow is used for 24' and smaller round pools, while a 4' X 8' pillow is used for 27' and larger round pools and oval pools.
3. Fill air pillow 3/4 full to leave room for expansion and not break prematurely. As pool water freezes air pillow will break at some point over winter.
4. Air pillow should be placed in center of pool securing to pool top rails with rope. Let rope rest on water, not tight, to allow cover to set around air pillow.

Cover Pool

1. Winter Cover should be draped over pool and secured under pool top rails using cable and turnbuckle.
2. Let winter cover set over air pillow and rest on water. To prevent wind damage to cover, place 1"–2" of water on cover and around air pillow as a moat of water.
3. As more than 2"–3" of water accumulate on cover over winter, remove water to prevent damage to cover and pool from too much weight.
4. In areas of high winds, pool cover can also be secured with rail clips, two per section, and/or UV protected plastic wrap seal, to prevent wind from ballooning up cover.
5. A mesh pool leaf net can be installed on top of winter cover to catch leaves and debris from accumulating on top of winter cover.
6. A mesh leaf net can also be used over winter cover to secure and prevent ballooning up of winter cover from high winds.



Visit our YouTube Channel for the full Closing Class Video, as well as Individual Closing Tasks

Winterizing Supply Checklist:

- _____ Winter Closing Kit
- _____ Pool Winter Magic
- _____ Skimmer Winter Plate
- _____ Skimmer Gizzmo
- _____ Return Plug
- _____ Filter Cleaner
- _____ Air Pillow
- _____ Winter Cover
- _____ Cover Cable
- _____ Turnbuckle
- _____ Cover Clips
- _____ Cover Plastic Wrap / Seal
- _____ Leaf Net
- _____ Pool Grade Antifreeze
- _____ Waterline Cleaner
- _____ Waterproof O-Ring Grease