

WINTERIZING YOUR POOL

In many areas, the weather becomes a major factor in the management of your pool or spa. Aquatic facilities in locations with a milder climate may only need a partial winterization program, whereas a facility in colder areas will need a full winterization program in order to prevent damage to the pool shell, mechanical equipment, building and surrounding area.

A proper winterization program will cover areas including the :

- Prevention of damage caused by hydro-static pressure
- Prevention of rust and general wear
- Chance of vandalism
- Use a checklist system for disassembling and assembling equipment
- Proper inventory and storage techniques

Tips and Guidelines for Winterizing your Aquatic Facility

- Adjust the chemical balance of the pool water to recommended levels.
- Treat facility water with appropriate products to minimize algae, bacteria, or damage to surfaces.
- Ensure to drain the pool below the returns.
- Open all pump room valves and loosen the lid from the hair and lint skimmer.
- If the filter is below pool water level, close the valves leading from the pool to the filter.
- Add pool grade antifreeze formulated specifically for recreational water applications to the pipes to prevent bursting.
- Add antifreeze to pumps to help protect seals. Do not use automotive antifreeze.
- Make sure the hydrostatic relief valve is operational.

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- Properly store any unused chemicals as described on their labels to prevent containers from breaking and the mixing of potentially incompatible chemicals.
- Dispose of test reagents, disinfectants, and other chemicals that will lose their potency over the winter.
- Disconnect, clean and store the chemical feeder, controllers, and other chemical feed pumps. Store controller electrodes in liquid, in a warm environment.
- Remove deck equipment, hardware, and non-permanent objects such as ladders, rails, slides, guard chairs, starting blocks, handicapped lifts, portable ramps, clocks, weirs, and safety equipment to prevent vandalism. Store in a clearly-marked, identifiable, weather-protected location. Cap all exposed deck sockets.
- Remove the diving boards. Store the boards indoors, upside down and flat so they will not warp.

****THESE TIPS ARE GUIDELINES ONLY. ALL FACILITIES SHOULD USE THEIR BUILDERS CLOSING PROCEDURE AS SPECIFIED TO ENSURE EQUIPMENT IS PROTECTED DURING THE WINTER MONTHS****