



Winterizing Your Inground Pool

1. Clean pool thoroughly. Super chlorinate with at least three times your daily amount of chlorine. Adjust your pH to 7.4 to 7.6. Use a Sparkle Pools Algaecide, as well as a Sparkle Pools Stain and Scale, and follow the directions on the back of the bottle.
2. Lower the water in the pool just below the faceplate on the skimmer. Lower the water by using the backwash or waste setting on your sand filter.
3. Shut off the pump. Remove the lid from the pump basket to allow the water in the lines to return to the pool. Remove Pressure Gauge and store.
4. Remove directional fitting ("eye-ball"), grate, skimmer basket, and weir; and store.
5. On sand filters, remove drain cap on bottom of the filter to allow water to drain out.
6. To drain the backwash valve on sand filters, remove plug. Replace plug when draining is complete. Depress VariFlo valve handle and rotate to the "Winter" position. This will allow the water to drain from the valve. Leave valve in this "inactive" position.
7. Remove the two plugs from the bottom of the pump to allow the water to drain. Replace plugs when draining is complete.
8. If you have a heater, drain as instructed in your owner's manual.
9. "Blowing out lines":
 - a. Disconnect plumbing at filter. Suction line plumbing is accessible through the pump.
 - b. Place exhaust hose of vacuum cleaner firmly over the end of the pipe, and seal with rags to create an airtight seal. Have another person positioned at pool inlet with winterizing plug.
 - c. Turn vacuum to reverse (blow). When water begins to bubble upwards at the inlet, place plug firmly into the inlet. Turn vacuum off and repeat procedure with remaining lines. Use the Gizzmo for the skimmer suction line.
10. Put at least one quart of permanent non-toxic antifreeze down each suction line through the hair and lint trap in the pump- use a funnel with a hose extension for this.
11. Dip out enough water from wall skimmer to add one quart of antifreeze. Bring level of water/antifreeze mix to the top of the basket opening.

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12. Cover your filter with a piece of heavy plastic and secure for winter. If you have a heater, cover it in the same manner after following instructions in your owner's manual for winterization.
13. Remove ladder and diving board, store flat in a dry place for the winter. Put rags in anchor sockets to keep out dirt and moisture. Remove fiberglass corner steps and store inside.
14. If you use an air pillow under your cover, inflate balloon to half capacity only. Tie a length of rope to each corner grommet. The rope must be long enough to extend beyond the corners of your patio and secured with stakes. The air pillow reduces the collection of water, leaves, and twigs in the center of the cover, and also reduces the possibility of ice damage to your pool.

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