

\$2.99

HOW TO WINTERIZE YOUR SWIMMING POOL



Bring home the good life...

Seasonal
SPECIALTY STORES®

www.seasonalspecialtystores.com

FOXBORO
Route 1 & Route 140
(508) 543-7112

*Minutes from Wrentham Village
Premium Outlets (Rt. 140)*

*A mile south of
Gillette Stadium (Rt. 1)*

S171/B8062



As summer comes to an end,

all swimming pools must be prepared for the winter season. When closing your pool for the year, a number of precautions must be taken to ensure the clarity of the water and the safety of the pool and its equipment. Since all pools are different, it would be impossible to cover everything in this space. However, we can provide you with some helpful guidelines.

The first things that should be done are simple housekeeping chores. To properly close your pool for the season, it should be first skimmed, brushed and vacuumed. The cleaner you close your pool, the cleaner it should be in the spring!

Next, you'll need to add special chemicals to help ensure the water clarity during the coming months. Add these chemicals the night before you close your pool and let the filter run overnight to circulate them.

CHLORINE/BROMINE POOLS

*Add double the normal dosage of Shock
(2 lbs. Granular/2 gal. Liquid per 10,000 gallons).*

Add an appropriate size Winter Kit.

HOW TO WINTERIZE YOUR ABOVE GROUND POOL:



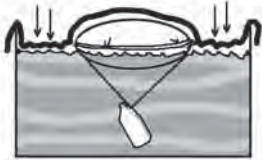
- 1. Add the appropriate Winterizing Chemicals** to the pool the night before closing it. Run the filter overnight to circulate. Backwash the filter thoroughly in the morning.
- 2. Close off the skimmer and return fittings.** We recommend the use of a skimmer face plate to avoid having to lower the water level. Plug the return fitting. If the opening is threaded it usually takes a 1¹/₂" plug . If it is not threaded, #9 or #10 rubber expansion plugs would be the most common sizes used.
- 3. Disconnect the filter system and remove all drain plugs from the pump and filter.** If you have a sand filter you should empty the sand from the tank. If it contains 75 lbs. of sand or less, take the filter inside. If it contains more sand (typical), the filter will have a drain plug or cap somewhere at its lowest point. Remove the plug or cap and let the filter totally drain. This can take as long as 24 hours. You can then reinstall the plug or cap, or leave it open until spring start-up. Leave the filter where it is after draining. You may loosely cover the filter with a tarp to help retain the finish of the filter, but it is not necessary.

If you have a D.E. Filter you should disassemble it, chemically clean the filter elements and rinse them off with a high pressure washer. Put the filter back together and bring it inside. It is our recommendation always to store the filter inside for the winter season, (or at least bring the filter elements inside.)
- 4. Install Ice Equalizer Air Pillow(s).** This is an inflatable pillow designed to help absorb pressure from ice expansion and assist in preventing possible damage to the pool structure and wall. Pillows also allow the cover to funnel water to the sides of the pool, making it easier to remove in the

spring. Pillows should be inflated only half to three-quarters full, allowing room for expansion. They should then be positioned and anchored in the center of the pool. Gallon jugs full of sand, tied to the pillows with twine usually works best.

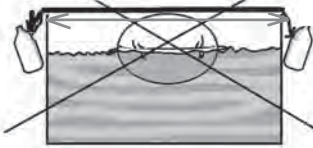
PLEASE NOTE: IF A PILLOW BREAKS IT IS A SIGN THAT THERE IS TOO MUCH STRESS ON THE COVER! IF THIS SHOULD HAPPEN, IMMEDIATELY PUMP THE WATER OFF THE COVER, AND REPLACE THE PILLOW WITH TWO OR THREE SMALLER PILLOWS. WE ALWAYS RECOMMEND TWO OR THREE SMALLER PILLOWS RATHER THAN ONE OR TWO LARGE PILLOWS.

RIGHT



Cover should be loose, resting on pool water. Pillow should be half-inflated

WRONG



Do not stretch cover or weight it down. Do not fully inflate pillow.

5. Pull the winter cover

onto the pool. For round or oval pools you should start by folding the cover in half so that the top is on the inside. Then with one person at each side of the folded cover, pull it half way onto the pool. With the cover half on, gradually pull the folded portion of the cover into place allowing the cover to rest on the pool water.

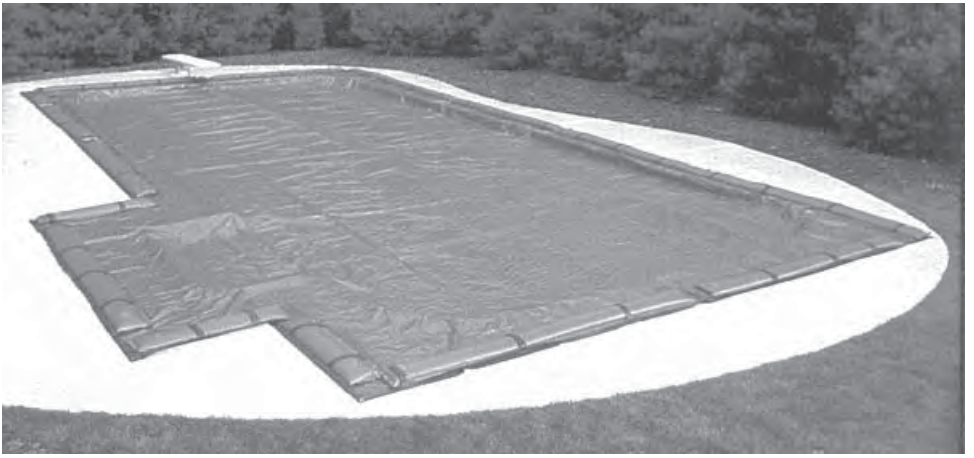
6. Secure the cover with the cable or rope provided.

Weave the cable through the grommets around the edge of the cover. Once you have the cable in place, pull it snug under the top rails. Attach it to the winch or turnbuckle and tighten. If you have cover clips, attach them so they further secure the cover to the top rails of the pool. Two to three clips per top rail generally works well. If you have a partial or full deck around the pool, you may need to use water tubes, as described in the inground section, to hold the cover securely in place. We do not recommend tying the cover to anything or weighing it down by hanging bottles or other objects from the grommets. These procedures usually damage the cover, and will void its warranty. Please ask any of our in-store experts how to properly cover your deck and fence pool.

7. Your pool should now be ready for winter.

Remember, it is very important to pump or siphon any water off the cover as soon as possible when it rains or when the snow melts. **Damage to the cover caused by excessive**

4 weight on top is not covered by warranty.



HOW TO WINTERIZE YOUR INGROUND POOL:

- 1. Add winterizing chemicals** to your pool water the night before you plan to close your pool. Let the filter circulate the chemicals overnight.
- 2. Backwash** the filter thoroughly.
- 3. Lower the water level** in the pool approximately 3 to 6 inches below the bottom of the skimmer. If you have a main drain, just shut off the valve(s) for the skimmer(s) and run the filter on backwash or waste. If you do not have a main drain, hook up your hand pool vacuum, putting the vac hose directly into the bottom of the skimmer, and run the filter with the valve on backwash or waste. As the pool water goes down, be sure to keep water in the skimmer with a garden hose. If neither of these options work, you can use a submersible pump.
- 4. Disconnect and drain your filter system.** Remove all drain plugs from the pump and filter, chemical feeder and heater. If you have a D.E. Filter you should disassemble it, chemically clean the filter elements and rinse them off with a high pressure washer. Bring the filter elements inside for the winter.

5. Blow out underground lines. *Using the exhaust from a shop vac or similar device, blow water from the skimmer lines at the skimmer so that water comes out at the pump. Stop and restart the blower repeatedly until no more water comes out at the pump. Pour one gallon of nontoxic swimming pool anti-freeze down the skimmer. Install Gizzmo in the skimmer. You will need one gallon of nontoxic swimming pool antifreeze for each 25 feet of underground line to and from the pool (including all skimmer lines, all returns, and the main drain).*

Next, blow out the other lines from the filter connections. If the opening in the pool is above water, just blow on and off until no more water comes out. If the line is below water, blow into it from the filter side for ten seconds or until a steady stream of bubbles is coming out. Install the plug while the blower is still running. Make sure the plug is tight enough so that no more air is getting out. Turn off the blower and add antifreeze.

If you have a main drain, you need to winterize it as well. Pour one gallon nontoxic antifreeze into the line from the filter side. Close the valve.

Check the filter system one more time to make sure it is totally drained. Use pump protector or antifreeze in the pump housing. If you cannot store the pump and filter inside, protect it from the weather by covering it with a tarp.

6. Remove all ladders and handrails, and remove the anchor wedges from the sockets. Diving boards are usually far enough away that they do not interfere with the winter cover, so removal is optional, but recommended. Any sharp corners in the coping of your pool (such as the couplings or the cut made for stairs) should be padded so that they will not rip your winter cover. **Tears from sharp edges are not covered by pool cover warranties.**

7. Pull the cover gently over the pool allowing it to sit on the water, taking care that the edges do not fall in. Adjust the position of the cover loosely. If you pull the cover taut, it will be pulled into the pool when rain and snow collect on it. There should be just enough of the cover out of the pool for the water tubes to sit on, with plenty of extra material in the pool.



8. To hold the cover in place, use water tubes. Never use rocks, blocks, or other solid objects for this purpose. They will damage your cover, and if they fall will damage the surface of your pool. Tying the cover down at the grommets is recommended as a supplement to water tubes, never as a replacement for water tubes. **A cover torn by tying it down, or weighing it down with solid objects is not covered by warranty!**

Put water tubes around the perimeter of the pool, placing them end to end with no space between. Lay the water tubes right on the edge of the cover, so there is no loose material for any wind to catch. Single tubes are adequate if your cover has loops to hold them in place. If not, double tubes are recommended, since they are less likely to roll. Water tubes should be filled to approximately half capacity, so that they will not burst when frozen.

9. Your pool should now be ready for winter. Remember, it is very important to pump or siphon any water off the cover as soon as possible when it rains or when the snow melts. **Damage to the cover caused by excessive weight on top is not covered by warranty.**

WINTERIZING CHECKLIST

Materials you'll need to close your swimming pool

ABOVE GROUND

- Shock (2 pkgs. per 10,000 gallons)
- Winter Chemical Kit
- Stainless Steel Skimmer Plate
- Gizmo
- Plug for Return Fitting
- Winter Cover
- Cable and Turnbuckle
- Ice Equalizer Pillows
(Two or three medium pillows are better than one or two large pillows.)
- String or Twine
- Pool Cover Pump or Siphon
- Leaf Master or Leaf Rake
- Silicone-based Lubricant

INGROUND

- Shock (2 pkgs. per 10,000 gallons)
- Winter Chemical Kit
- Antifreeze Nontoxic, Pool
(one gallon per line, 2 gallons per line if over 25 ft.)
- Gizmo
- Plugs *(for return lines or deep suction)*
- Winter Cover
- Pump Protector
(if exposed to the weather)
- Water Tubes *(see below)*
- Shop Vac
- Pool Cover Pump or Siphon
- Leaf Master or Leaf Rake
- Silicone-based Lubricant



WATER TUBES

Suggested# of water tubes needed

Pool size	4' tubes	8' tubes	10' tubes
16' x 32'	--	4	8
18' x 36'	--	--	12
20' x 40'	4	12	-
20' x 45'	2	--	12

Bring home the good life...

Seasonal

SPECIALTY STORES®



S171/B8062

FOXBORO - Route 1 & Route 140

Minutes from Wrentham Village Premium Outlets (Rt. 140)
A mile south of Gillette Stadium (Rt. 1)

(508) 543-7112

www.seasonalspecialtystores.com

ITEM
NUMBER
L553



L153 Winterizing Brochure