

WINTERIZING

Winterizing the Plumbing System

Preparing your motorhome for colder weather or storage is very important for most states and Canada. Failure to prepare your motorhome may cause water supply lines and the water heater to freeze. No commodity or product should be added to the fresh water system to ensure freeze protection other than RV antifreeze.

Winterizing the Aqua Hot System

Requires RV antifreeze in the potable water chamber to insure the heating coil is protected from freeze damage. Refer to the winterizing instructions in this Section 5 Plumbing Systems, and the Aqua-Hot owner's manual for details.

For your convenience this motorhome is equipped with an RV antifreeze winterizing feature located in the universal docking center.

When to winterize

- ❑ At the end of the camping season.
- ❑ When the motorhome will be exposed to temperatures that will fall at or below 32°F (0°C).

How to winterize

1. Level the motorhome and drain the fresh water plumbing system (see **draining the fresh water system**).
2. If your motorhome is not equipped with the water purification system skip to step 4; otherwise,

Remove the water filter cartridge (storing it for the winter) and replace it with the water purification system manufacturer supplied bypass hose.
3. Turn on all faucets in the motorhome (kitchen, lavatory sink, shower and outside shower).
4. Make sure the water heater is turned OFF. Remove the water heater anode rod with care (storing it for the winter) and replace it with the drain plug. This will not apply to units equipped with the Aqua Hot system; refer to the Aqua Hot manual for winterizing procedure. If there is any water pressure present, the water may spray out of the opening when the anode rod is removed.
5. Make sure the plug is installed on the "fresh water inlet."

6. Turn the “city water / fresh tank fill valve” to NORMAL.
7. Turn the “winterize intake valve” to the open position.
8. Turn the “water heater bypass” to the BYPASS position. For Aqua Hot (if so equipped) please see the Aqua Hot manual for information.

NOTE: To winterize the Aqua Hot do not use the water heater bypass.

9. Make sure the “fresh tank drain” and “low point drains” are closed.
10. Insert the clear hose into the container of approximately a gallon of RV antifreeze solution (it may take up to four gallons to winterize the motorhome).
11. Turn the water pump ON.
12. Have the person assisting you close the all the faucets after the antifreeze solution begins to flow from them. Allow six to eight ounces to flow into the drain to protect the drain system p traps. Do not forget to run RV antifreeze through the toilet including sprayer hose if so equipped, and all other water using appliances such as Aqua Hot, washer, dishwasher, and refrigerators with water and ice features.
13. At the universal docking center, quickly turn the “city water / fresh tank fill valve” to the FILL TANK position then back to the NORMAL position (3 - 5 seconds) to allow a small quantity of RV antifreeze to enter the fresh water tank.

When you are done adding RV antifreeze

14. Remove the clear hose from the container of RV antifreeze and clean.
15. Wipe the antifreeze out of the sinks, shower and toilet using a soft, dry cloth.

Winterize the house type refrigerator

1. Blow/Drain all water out of the system, 50-60 LBS. into the city water hose connector. (Recommend an adaptor with air hose connector/male water hose connector). Remove filter from the refrigerator, check refrigerator for bypass plug If so equipped, remove filter and install by pass plug before air pressure is applied.
2. When blow draining refrigerator and drink dispenser, replace the coach water filter with tube provided and be sure valve for refrigerator/drink dispenser line is open.
3. With air blowing through the system, open all faucets and low point drain valves, hold open water dispenser on refrigerator until water is drained and air comes through the dispenser.
4. (With water filter disconnected) Cycle the icemaker and water dispenser to clear the line of remaining water, or remove and empty the cartridge filter on the refrigerator and let it back drain.
5. To back drain, remove filter and tube at coach filter location and hold drink dispenser and refrigerator water dispenser open. This may vary by refrigerator model and type.

6. If the system is blown and drained completely, you may close the valve to the water filter/tube in cargo bay rear bulkhead before adding potable antifreeze to the water lines. (This filter and line feed the drink dispenser and the refrigerator).
7. If you are adding potable antifreeze to the refrigerator, you need to remove the filter to pump the antifreeze through the refrigerator drink dispenser and ice maker. Several cycles of the icemaker may be necessary to eliminate the water and have ample antifreeze in the ice maker system.
8. Pump potable antifreeze into system from the Sanitize / Winterize intake valve at the Universal Docking Station into the water system, including the Aqua Hot. Note: There is no need to add anti freeze to the fresh water tank, allow it to drain thoroughly.
9. For blow draining or filling with antifreeze, be aware that one model refrigerator has its filter at the top inside of the refer compartment and will need the bypass cap that is provided installed to contain the antifreeze.
10. One model has the filter located at the bottom left side, under the freezer door. This appliance has a built in bypass that engages when the filter cartridge is ejected.

Be aware of the model and function of various brands to properly winterize each refrigerator.

Location:

The motor home plumbing system filter and bypass tube are located in the passenger side cargo bay and mounted on the rear bulkhead.

WINTERIZING DISHWASHER

With the plumbing system full of antifreeze run the dishwasher to get one quart of antifreeze into the tub of the dishwasher. Then turn off the dishwasher and put it in the lock mode, the pump will run and add antifreeze to the “p” trap.

If air pressure is available blow draining appliance is preferred.

WINTERIZING WASHER

Drain the washer system. With air pressure applied to the system turn to any wash cycle (quick wash, normal, etc.) and run for 5 minutes. Then run antifreeze through the system allowing it to go through the soap dispenser (this ensures water valve, hoses, and electric valves in washing machine are winterized. Then, pour ¼ gallon antifreeze in and turn to drain/spin. This puts the antifreeze in the “p” trap.