

ABOVE GROUND POOL CLOSING INSTRUCTIONS



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- 1 One week prior to closing, bring a pool water sample to the store so your pool water can be properly balanced. It is natural for sitting water to become acidic on its own so balancing the water is very important prior to closing your pool. At this time you can also purchase a **Pool Closing Kit**, which includes the products discussed in steps 2 & 3.
- 2 3 days before winterizing the pool, add 1L of **Spring & Fall**. This product will help eliminate non-living organics that find their way through the cover before the water freezes. It will also help remove phosphates to aid in the prevention of algae growth.
- 3 2 days before winterizing, add **Stain & Scale** around the perimeter of the pool. Wait 1 hour and broadcast **Now** over the surface of the water. These products should circulate for at least 24 hours.
- 4 If you have a sand filter, the night before you close the pool, add **Filter Cleaner** to remove any grease and oil build up from the sand. [Click Here](#) for instructions on how to clean your sand filter. If you have a cartridge filter, you can chemically clean the cartridge once the pool is closed. [Click Here](#) for instructions on how to chemically clean your cartridge filter
- 5 The day of winterizing, vacuum your pool on the waste/drain setting on your filter. This allows you to vacuum and lower the water level at the same time.
- 6 Put a garden hose into your skimmer and turn it on. This will ensure a good seal around the vacuum hose so that your pump will not lose prime once the water in the pool is below the skimmer level. The water in the pool will drain from the bottom of the pool, through the vacuum hose and out the backwash line.
- 7 Lower the water level below the return jets, approximately 4-6" below the skimmer level. Do not take the water level any lower, as the liner will start to pull away from the pool wall.
- 8 Shut off the pump and turn the filter handle to the winterize position. If you do not have the winterize position, place the handle in between 2 settings. This just keeps the handle raised so it does not seize in one position.
- 9 Remove the eyeball of the return jet and replace it with an expandable plug.
- 10 Disconnect the suction line under the skimmer. The suction hole inside the skimmer should be left open. Disconnect the plumbing from the filter to the pool, so the return line will drain.
- 11 Drain the pump, filter, chlorinator and heater. Remove the drain plugs from all the equipment as well as the pressure gauge and site glass and store them in a safe place for the winter.
- 12 Once the pump has been drained, replace the plug(s). Take the basket out and fill the pump pot with pool grade Antifreeze to keep the pump seal lubricated over the winter. Pool grade antifreeze is non toxic so it does not matter if it gets into the pool upon start up. The pump can then be left outside or taken indoors for the winter. Even if the pump is taken inside, it should still have antifreeze inside it. This will keep the ceramic seal lubricated so it does not crack.

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- 13 Install a Freeze protector in the skimmer hole. This will protect the skimmer from cracking if water builds up in it over the winter. Remember to use teflon tape on the threads of the freeze protector
- 14 Remove drop in steps or the ladder from the pool and store indoors.
- 15 Inspect the winter cover and make sure there are no holes in it. Replace if necessary. Install the winter cover on the pool. Secure with winch cord and winch. If surrounded by decking, secure the winter cover with water bags. Be sure to overlap the water bags so the cover will not fall into the pool. Fill the water bags $\frac{2}{3}$ with water to allow for freezing and expansion.
- 16 Add 1" of water to the pool cover.
- 17 Store any dry chemicals in a clean dry space. Store any liquid chemicals inside a heated area so they do not freeze.

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