



INSTRUCTIONS FOR WINTERIZING YOUR ABOVEGROUND POOL

TEDDY BEAR POOLS & SPAS

WWW.TEDDYBEARPOOLS.COM

Approximately forty-eight (48) hours prior to closing your aboveground pool, we suggest bringing in a water sample to our lab for a free water analysis. Your water will be in your pool for the next six months and its chemistry is important to the longevity of your liner, light, and any other parts that it comes in contact with during this period. For example, copper or iron in your water can stain your liner. Improper PH may be very destructive and corrosive to the pool and its equipment. Algae will be easier to get rid of NOW than in the spring. Let's make sure your water is properly balanced and algae free before you cover the pool. Now you are ready to close your pool!

1. After removing your solar cover, use Teddy Bear Cover Cleaner to clean and deodorize your cover before storing it for the winter. **IMPORTANT:** Do not store your cover in your shed or garage. Mice and ants will destroy it. Try to vacuum your pool of the larger foreign material. If you have leaves, remove them with a leaf net because they can stain your liner.
2. Clean your liner above the water line with "Tile and Vinyl Cleaner" (NOT corrosive home cleaning agents.) This will remove harmful dirt, grease, suntan lotions, and air pollutants.
3. Now you are ready to add your closing chemicals. It does not matter what order you are adding them as long as your filter is running and they are added separately.
 - A. BEAR ALGAE OUT is a broad-spectrum non-foaming algaecide needed to inhibit algae from forming. Add the entire contents by walking around the perimeter of the pool.
 - B. BEAR MAGNET is a coagulating agent that is used to tie up minerals such as copper and iron and hold them in suspension so that they may be filtered out. It is also used in preventing staining of your swimming pool liner.
 - C. BEAR SHOCK is a super-shocking agent used in effectively eliminating bacteria and germs in water. This product is 100% water-soluble and contains no residue. We recommend pre-dissolving this product in a bucket of water. Stir contents with a wooden stick. Do not use any metallic object. Add the solution directly into the pool while walking around the perimeter of the pool.
4. Try to circulate the pool water approximately 1-2 hours by operating the pump and filter to evenly distribute winter chemical treatment.
5. Install the ice plate on the skimmer. Do this by removing only the screws on the skimmer faceplate, which correspond to the holes in the ice plate. Sandwich the foam gasket in between the faceplate and the ice plate then reinstall the screws. (DO NOT remove the white faceplate). Next, REMOVE the eyeball return fitting. You may need to use a plastic key to remove all of it. (These are available from our Parts Department.) Now, install the threaded plug here (inside the pool). Make sure that it has a rubber o-ring and that it is not split or cracked.
6. Drain the filter tank and pump completely of water. (If you have a sand filter, leave the drain plug off for the winter.) Disconnect the hoses from the filter system and the pool. Bring the motor/pump, DE filter (if you have one), hoses, ladders, and any other accessories out of the weather. DO NOT store any of your equipment with your chemicals!! Try to store your filter and accessories in your cellar.

Note to owners of DE filters: Now would be a good time to clean and degrease your DE filter. The Teddy Bear Pool product called Bear Strip is made for this purpose. You can purchase this from our store complete with detailed instructions on how to properly clean your filter.

Teddy Bear Pools also offers this service for a fee of \$55.00 if you bring your filter in and pick it up when it is ready.

7. If your pool has a light, we recommend removing it from the light niche and securing it to the deck or top seat.

Also, if you have a deck ladder, you should remove the flanges, which secure the ladder to the deck. If left installed, they could wear down and/or tear your cover.

8. Inflate the pillow 3/4 full of air and secure it in the pool with kite string. NOTE: The pillow does not have to be dead center in your pool. Expect the pillow to "pop" during the off-season.

9. Put the cover on the pool securing it with cable and/or water bags. If using water bags, only fill them 2/3 full. **DO NOT** suspend water jugs from the cover to secure it. Covers are not designed to hold water weight in this manner. If damage to the cover occurs due to the use of water jugs, it **WILL NOT** be covered under warranty.

THE HOMEOWNERS OFF-SEASON RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Keep some water (1 inch) on your cover. This helps to prevent wind damage.

NOTE: Covers are not 100% water barriers. Water seepage is a normal occurrence.

2. Remove excessive water (anything more than 3 inches) from the cover during the off-season. If you use an electric pump, make sure you put a Frisbee or similar object under the pump. If you don't you may draw your pool water through the cover. You should also remove the leaves from the cover before the first freeze. If they remain on top, they will rot and seep through the cover and contaminate your pool.

If excessive weight is allowed to collect on the cover:

a. The water under the cover will become displaced, resulting in the loss of the chemically-treated water in the pool.

b. Damage to your cover may occur

c. Debris from the cover may fall into the pool water if the cover tears or is pulled into the pool.

3. In the early spring, raise the water to normal swimming height (half-skimmer). If the water has started to turn color (look under the cover, immediately add algaecide to the pool under the cover.

Teddy Bear Pools & Spas wishes to thank all of our customers for their continued support.

See you in the spring!!