



In-Ground Pool Closing Instructions

TEDDY BEAR POOLS & SPAS



Approximately forty-eight (48) hours prior to closing your in-ground pool, bring in one QT of your pool water to our store for analysis. Winterizing your pool properly is critical because your water will not circulate in your pool for the next several months. Water chemistry is important to the longevity of your liner 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.

Please utilize our free water test bottle or use a CLEAN one QT plastic container. Do not use empty chemical containers. Also, bring a list of your chemicals that you have at home with you.

1. If you have a solar blanket, remove it by slowly lifting over the edge of the pool, being careful not to catch or tear it.
2. Rinse any debris off blanket. Use "Teddy Bear Cover Cleaner" to clean and deodorize it before storing for the winter. Gently brush cleaner over entire surface. Rinsing is not necessary and will reduce odors and protect the cover.
3. Fold cover carefully and store in a Rubbermaid 20 or 30 gallon tub with a lid. It should not be stored in a shed or garage, where ants or mice may destroy it!
4. Vacuum your pool of debris and remove leaves with a leaf net because they can stain your liner.
5. Clean your liner above the water line with "Bear Buster". Place a small amount of cleaner on a pool scrubber (available in our retail store) and gently rub in a circular motion. This will remove harmful dirt, grease, suntan lotions and air pollutants. Do not use corrosive home cleaning agents.
6. You should now add all of the chemicals from your Teddy Bear Winterizing kit. It does not matter what order you are adding them as long as your filter is running and they are added separately.
 - **BEAR ALGAE OUT**- This is a broad spectrum non-foaming algacide used to inhibit algae from growing. Add directly by walking around the perimeter of the pool surface.
 - **BEAR MAGNET**- This is a chelating agent that is used to tie up minerals such as copper and iron so they may be filtered out, thus preventing staining of your swimming pool liner.
 - **BEAR SHOCK**- This chemical kills bacteria and algae. Fill a plastic bucket with water. Then, add Bear Shock and stir it with a wooden stick. Add by walking around the perimeter of the pool, pouring slowly to avoid splashing. If any shock remains on your pool bottom, brush it until it dissolves.
7. Try to circulate the pool water approximately 1-2 hours by operating the pump and filter to evenly distribute winter chemical treatment.
8. Remove the diving board bolts and lift the board off the stand. Remove the fulcrum bumper.
9. To remove the hand rails and ladders, lift the escutcheon plates and loosen anchor socket bolts. Then, lift the ladder from the anchor sockets.
10. Remove the eyeball return fittings. You may need to use a plastic key to remove them. These are available from our Parts Department. The fitting may come out in pieces or as one assembly.
11. Remove the skimmer basket and the weir door
12. Remove the suction grate, if you have one.
13. If you have walk-in stairs with a hydrotherapy jet, you need to remove the lock ring, the jet body and the Teflon ring that is seated in the back of the jet.

14. If you have a D.E. filter, backwash your filter. (For more information see operating your D.E. filter Handout.)
15. If you have a cartridge filter, drain your filter. (For more information see operating your Cartridge filter Handout.)
16. If you have a sand filter:
 - Backwash your filter.
 - Remove drain plug
 - Move the valve handle to the winter or closed position.
 - If possible, remove the valve.
 - Disconnect the hoses from the filter system and the pool.
 - If possible, move your filter inside.
17. Turn off electricity to your pump.
18. Drain the pump by removing the two drain plugs.
19. Disconnect the ground wire.
20. Disconnect union from between pump and filter.
21. If you have a chlorinator, disconnect each of the two hoses by loosening the white Ferrell nuts that are on either end of the black chlorinator hose.
22. If you have an ECOsmarte now is the time to disconnect the chamber from the plumbing and disconnect the 4 wires that connect to the chamber.
23. Disconnect both the suction and return lines from the pump and filter.
24. Remove the pump and filter from base.
25. Blow air (with a reversible vacuum or air compressor) from each of the lines by the filter and pump one at a time. This forces the water out of the lines and allows you to plug each line while the blower is running. (This step requires two people.)
 - For return and wall suction line, plug with a threaded or expansion plug.
 - Use a gizmo for the skimmers. This prevents ice expansion from cracking the skimmer.
 - Use a #11 expansion plug for the stair jets.
 - Remove stair jet air control once expansion plug is inserted into the stair jet. Allow remaining water to blow out of the line.
 - We recommend adding about a half a gallon of non-toxic anti-freeze into the stair jet air control. Replace the control.
 - If you have a line for your slide, remember to disconnect it and blow it out.
26. Bring the motor/pump, filter, 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.
27. Carefully place the cover on the pool, black side down. It is important to cover the pool with a good quality cover.
28. Use water bags or aqua blocks to secure the cover on your deck. Fill water bags 2/3 full and do not drag them when moving. Only fill aqua blocks to the designated fill line. Also, remember to lay your vapor barrier on the water surface of the aqua block prior to snapping on the cover.
29. DO NOT use cement blocks, wood or other items to secure your cover. (Any damage to your cover and/or liner from objects other than water bags or Aqua blocks will not be covered under warranty.)
30. To prevent wind damage, leave a small amount of water on the cover to add weight.
31. If you have a DE or Cartridge filter, now would be a good time to clean and degrease it. For more information on cleaning your filter, please see the filter operation handout specific for your type of filter. Teddy Bear Pools also offers this service for a small fee. You can bring your filter in and pick it up when it is ready or have our Service Department pick it up and deliver it back to you.
32. Remember, to always read and follow label instructions on pool chemicals and products.

Teddy Bear Pools & Spas wishes to thank all of our customers for their continued support. See you in the spring!!



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