

WINTERIZING YOUR BOAT

WELCOME To The WATER

DiscoverBOATING

The following are general guidelines. Check your owner's manual for manufacturer's recommendations/procedures particular to your boat.

INBOARD ENGINES

- Change oil & oil filter
- Flush engine with fresh water
- Circulate antifreeze through the manifold
- Change transmission fluid
- Remove spark plugs/spray "fogging oil" into each cylinder (*Gas engines ONLY*)
- Wipe down the engine

STERN DRIVE

- Inspect stern drive/remove any plant life or barnacles
- Drain gear case and check for excessive moisture in the oil
- Clean lower unit with soap & water
- For units with rubber boot: Check rubber boot for cracks or pinholes
- Grease all fittings
- Check fluid levels in hydraulic steering or lift pumps

OUTBOARD ENGINES

- Flush engine with water; drain completely
- Wash engine with soap & water
- Disconnect fuel hoses; run engine until it stops
- Ensure all fuel is drained from carburetor
- Lubricate cylinder walls & pistons with fogging oil
- Apply water-resistant grease to propeller shaft & threads
- Change gear oil in lower unit
- Lubricate engine exterior or polish with a good wax

BILGES

- Clean & dry
- Clean any oil spills with soap & hot water
- Once dry, spray with moisture-displacing lubricant
- Add a little antifreeze to prevent any water from freezing

FUEL

- Fill fuel tank
- Add fuel stabilizer
- Change fuel filter(s) & water separator(s)

FRESH WATER SYSTEM

- Drain fresh water tank & hot water heater
- Isolate hot water heater by connecting the in & out lines together
- Pump non-toxic antifreeze into the system & turn on all faucets/shower/wash-down areas until antifreeze starts running out
- Put non-toxic antifreeze in the water heater

HEAD

- Pump out holding tank; while pumping add fresh water to the bowl & flush several times
- Add manufacturer-recommended marine cleaner/deodorizer; let sit a few minutes, then add water and pump out again
- Add antifreeze & pump through hoses, holding tank, y-valve, macerator & discharge hose

INTERIOR

- Remove valuables, electronics, lines, PFDs, fire extinguishers, flares, fenders, etc.; clean, check and replace as necessary
- Open all drawers/lockers & clean
- Turn cushions on edge so air can circulate around them or store in a climate controlled area
- Install a dehumidifier or use an odor & moisture absorber to keep your boat dry & mildew free

OUT-OF-WATER STORAGE

- Pressure wash hull, clean barnacles off props & shafts, rudders, struts & trim tabs
- Clean all through-hulls & strainers
- Open seacocks to drain water
- Check hull for blisters; attend to any you find
- Wax hull
- Take batteries out of boat; put on trickle charger or charge them every 30-60 days

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