

**GREAT BAY SPA & SAUNA**  
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## **HOW TO WINTERIZE YOUR SPA**

The purpose of winterizing a spa is to remove virtually every last drop of water from the system so that no freeze damage will occur. Improperly winterizing your spa could cause extensive damage from water freezing in the piping and/or equipment. If in doubt, please contact us; it is a service we provide our customers.

The most important tool for winterizing a spa is a good wet/dry shop vac. Dry towels or a chamois will also be of help. Remember that the idea is to remove **all** the water out of the system.

First step is to drain all the water out of the tub. Remove the filter cartridge and clean it, as you normally would, then soak it a minimum of 24 hours in a filter cleaning solution. Rinse the filter thoroughly and let it dry. If you have the Microclean Plus filter, there's no need to clean it. The filter cartridge, filter canister, and any parts you remove from the spa should be stored indoors until you're ready to start up the spa again in the spring.

Remove any and all drain plugs on the pump, filter and heater, and then open any unions on the heater, pump(s), and any other unions there may be.

If your spa has an air blower, turn it on for about 10 seconds, then vacuum any water out of the spa.

Place the shop vac hose over each of the pipe fittings (where you disconnected the unions) and draw out as much water as possible. Let the shop vac run. 5 to 10 minutes should suffice, but more is better.

Apply the vacuum to each jet, one at a time (start with the highest jet and work down to the lowest). Now vacuum out the drain fitting(s) at the bottom of the tub. When you're done with the drain fittings, vacuum out the skimmer.

Return to the equipment bay and again place the vacuum over each of the pipe fittings (where you disconnected the unions) and draw out as much water as possible.

Remove any remaining water from inside the spa with the vacuum, and then completely dry it with towels.

Now is a good time to remove any stains from the surface of your spa. If you polish your spa, now is a good time to do so with the Gel-Gloss. Not only will it protect the surface from staining, but also come springtime all you'll have to do is fill the tub and hop in.

Covering - While most insulating covers are designed to hold up under all weather conditions, below freezing temperatures will still shorten their life span. If you have an old cover, use it for protecting your spa in the winter (store the good cover indoors). With the cover on the spa, cover it with a heavy waterproof tarp to prevent any water from getting into the spa. Be sure to attach the tarp in such a way that it won't blow off. You will need to remove snow on a regular basis with a snow broom. Never use a shovel. The weight of the snow can cause the cover to sag and allow water to get into the spa. Worse yet, the weight can break the cover.