

## Winterizing Your Pool

This is a step by step guide for proper winterization (closing) of your pool. If you follow these steps carefully, your pool will remain sparkling clean for spring opening.

- 1) **Clean your pool.** This includes brushing and vacuuming the bottom and walls of your pool. If you are using an Autopilot or Phantom pool cleaner visually inspect the pool for cleanliness in some instances you may want to use your cleaning kit to touch up spots that may have been missed. This step is to insure that no algae or bacteria are living in your pool.
- 2) **Shock your pool.** Give your pool a good heavy treatment of chlorine and shock( super chlorination ). If you are using a salt generator system just push the shock button. You will need to leave your system running for 24 hours, after the first 3 hours of operation you should backwash your filter thoroughly. This will burn off any algae and bacterial that was not removed with your cleaning.
- 3) **Add Algaecide.** After your chlorine level has dropped to normal levels it is time to add algaecide. Add a good quality algaecide in accordance to the products instructions for winterization. **DO NOT ADD THE ALGAECIDE WHILE THE CHLORINE LEVEL IS HIGH.** (PREVENTING ALGAE)
- 4) **Lower the water.** Shut down your system, turn the valve on the filter to waste and turn the pump back on. You want to lower the water level to just below the return inlets. **NEVER DRAIN YOUR FIBERGLASS POOL.** Lowering the water level to just below the return inlets serves two functions. It will allow you to remove all the water from the return lines. It will prevent your pool from becoming too full from rain and melting snow.

5) **Disassemble Plumbing and Drain Lines.** Disconnect the hand tight unions (see fig. 1 below). Drain pipes, pump, and filter. Blow out the pipes leading to the pool, a reversible vacuum or leaf blower can be used. Once all the lines have been drained pour one half gallon of bio-degradable antifreeze into each line leading to the pool and blow the line as before. Once completed it is time to plug all of the lines. See table below for plug sizes.



### Plugs

RETURNS: 1 1/2" Rubber Plug #10

PHANTOM: 1 1/2 Rubber Plug #10

SKIMMER: 2" Rubber Plug #11

JETS: 2" Rubber Plug #12

6) **Cover your pool.** Remove the handrail and ladder then cover your pool. If you have not yet installed a cover but have purchased one see [safety cover](#) for details. If you would like assistance in closing your pool please contact us at 1800-596-6224 and schedule one of our service representatives to assist you.