

INSTRUCTIONS FOR END-OF-SEASON CLEANING OF FLOW-THROUGH CHILLERS

The chiller has two main parts, the chiller unit (a cube about 22" on a side) and a pump or "power head," which normally sits at the bottom of the tank and pumps water out of the tank, into and through the chiller, and back into the tank.

The cleaning process involves the following steps (It's not as complicated as it looks):

1. Fill a five-gallon bucket with three or four gallons of water.
2. Add a quart of white vinegar to the water in the bucket.
3. Put the power head and the end of the outflow hose into the bucket.
4. Plug the power head in and run for about half an hour. This will push the vinegar-water mix through the chiller. You don't need to plug in and turn on the chiller.
5. After half an hour, unplug the power head and dispose of the vinegar-water.
6. Fill the bucket with three or four gallons of clean water.
7. Return the power head and the end of the outflow hose to the bucket. Plug the power head back in.
8. Run for another 15" to flush out the vinegar-water residue.
9. Use an air compressor to force air through the chiller to remove the water that's still in there. You might want to do that in both directions, that is, pushing air through from the input side and then, after you've done that, pushing it in through from the output side.
10. If the tubes are grungy, it'd be good to force a rag at the end of a stiff wire through the tubing a few times (assuming that you don't have an appropriate-size brush). If the interior of the tubing has a greenish tinge, this probably means algae has been growing in it. Then, it'd probably be best to clean the interior of the tubing twice, once with a dilute vinegar-water mixture and then with clean water.