

StressLessCamping.com RV DeWinterizing Checklist

These tips should work for most RVs. It is assumed that the winterization process was performed by filling the system with non-toxic anti-freeze and bypassing the water heater.

1. Make sure all RV water faucets are closed
2. Make sure the RV's water pump is off
3. Close, plug, or cap the fresh water tank drain
4. Cap or turn off the low point drains
5. Close the hot water tank drain valve or replace the anode rod or tank plug. Be sure to place plumber's tape (PTFE tape) on the plug or rod threads
6. Connect a potable water hose between a household spigot and the RV fresh water connection and turn on the water supply to the RV at the "City Water" connection
7. Starting with the faucet furthest from the RV fresh water connection, slowly open the cold water faucet so the RV antifreeze flows (usually pink in color). Note that the furthest fixture from the water connection may be an external tap such as an outdoor kitchen or the outdoor shower. When the water runs clear, turn off the cold water faucet and repeat the process with the hot water faucet in the same location.
8. Repeat step 7 with all remaining faucets, including the toilet
9. Close all faucets and put some water in the fresh water tank. Add some RV water system freshener
10. Turn off the city water supply and turn on the RV's water pump
11. Open any cold water faucet for at least 20 seconds to purge anti-freeze in the pump line
12. Turn off the water pump and set the water heater bypass valve(s) to disable the bypass
13. Reconnect the fresh (city) water supply and allow the water heater to fill
14. Once the water heater is full, open the hot water faucet closest to the water heater slowly. There will be significant aeration from the hot water tank air space, so use the rag to contain the splashing. Do not open the faucet fully until aeration is complete.
15. Repeat step 14 with the other hot water taps until no aeration exists. Open the cold water taps once more to verify steady flow
16. Turn off the fresh water supply and pump, and stow the hose

It's time for another great season of StressLess Camping!