

# WINTERIZE YOUR PERSONAL WATERCRAFT

## STEP 1



Top off the fuel tank. By topping off the fuel tank, you will prevent condensation from forming in the tank. Once you have topped off the tank, add some fuel stabilizer to the gas. This will prevent the gas from going bad over the winter.

## STEP 2

Flush your PWC with fresh water. Because you have to run the engine to flush your craft, this step will also allow the fuel stabilizer that you added to your gas to reach the carburetor(s). This will prevent any fuel within the carburetor(s) from becoming gummy and possibly clogging the fuel system when you fire up the craft next spring.



## STEP 3

Give your craft one last wash (both inside and out) before putting away. You should use either car-wash or a liquid dish detergent for the washing. While washing the inside of your craft, you'll want to be sure to cover the intake system with a plastic bag to prevent any water from possibly entering the engine. Once you're through washing your craft, thoroughly dry it both inside and out. You'll want to be absolutely certain to get all of the water out of the hull.



## STEP 4

Beside lubricating, many lubricants will prevent corrosion and repel moisture. Fogging oil is such a lubricant. Start your craft's engine one last time, but only for a few seconds. While the engine is idling, spray some fogging oil into the throat of the carburetor(s). Some watercraft have an access hole in the flame arrestor that permits you to do this. Those that don't may require the removal of part of the flame arrestor if you cannot access the throat of the carburetor(s). Once you've done this, blip the throttle one last time to remove any excess water from the craft's cooling system and then turn off the engine.



Next, disconnect the spark-plug wires from the spark plugs and remove the spark plugs. When you disconnect the plug wires, you need to be sure to ground them. Next, spray some fogging oil into each cylinder and then pump the starter, just for a second. This will allow the engine to turn over, but

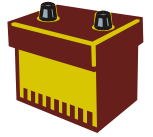


not start. (Note: You'll want to be sure to hold a rag over the spark-plug holes at this time to prevent making a big mess.) Spraying fogging oil into the spark-plug hole and pumping the starter will allow the lubricant to coat the cylinder walls and internal engine components. Once you've lubed the engine's internals, reinstall the spark plugs.

## STEP 5

Disconnect and remove the battery. You'll want to do this so that you don't have to purchase a new one next spring. Once you

disconnect your battery (remember to disconnect the negative [ground] terminal first, then disconnect the positive terminal), pull it out and place it on a rubber mat, either in a storage shed or in your garage. The reason that you do not want to store the battery in your house is because when they are being charged, batteries let off dangerous fumes. And the reason you'll want to put the battery on a rubber mat and not on a concrete floor is because this can actually discharge the battery. If you don't already have a trickle charger, we suggest that you invest in one now. A trickle charger will maintain your battery's charge over the winter and prevent you from having to buy a new battery come spring.



## STEP 6

This step isn't absolutely necessary, but if you value your craft, then we recommend putting a coat of wax on its exterior now. This will protect its finish.

## STEP 7

After you've waxed your craft, spray down the exterior of the engine and all of the craft's metal components (including the jetpump, latches and cables) with a multipurpose lube. This will provide protection against corrosion. WD40 works great for doing this. Once you spray down all the metal parts, use a rag to wipe off any excess lubricant; all it takes is a thin film of lube to protect the metal surface.



## STEP 8

Inspect the hull for any cracks. Inspect the fuel and water lines. If they are hard and brittle, you'll want to make a note that they will need to be replaced in the spring before you ride your craft. Also, check for loose or broken motor mounts, or any other items that may need to be replaced before you hit the water next year. Now is also a good time to check the torque of all your craft's fasteners (nuts, bolts and hose clamps).



## STEP 9

Unlatch the hood and/or seat of your craft and prop it open slightly. A small wooden or rubber block is ideal for doing this. By propping open the hood and/or seat, you allow air to circulate throughout the craft's engine compartment (hull). This will prevent any moisture from being trapped within the craft.

## STEP 10

Break out your craft's cover to protect it from the elements. If you don't have a cover, we strongly suggest you buy one. In addition to covering your craft, you might also want to stick a rag into the exhaust outlet. This will prevent any small animals from making your ski their winter home. For this same reason, be sure that the drain plugs are installed (but not tightly) in your hull as well. It is a good idea to put a dab of grease on the drain plug's O-rings before installing them. Also, don't forget to tighten the plugs, and remove the rag before that first ride next spring.

**OR CALL 321 - 9766**