

**LITEHOUSE  
ABOVE GROUND  
WINTERIZING  
CHECKLIST**

**Above  
Ground  
Pools**

- Balance Water Chemistry
- Filter Cleaner
- Winterizing Chemical Kits
- Pool Winter Magic
- Skimmer Protection
  - Gizmo
  - Super Gizmo
  - Styrofoam Block
  - Aquador™
- Winterizing Plugs
  - Expansion Plugs
  - 1022-C Threaded Plug
  - 1 1/2" Blow Through Plug
- Air Pillows
- Winter Cover
- Winter Cover Clips
- Leaf Net
- Waterproof Grease
- Water Line Cleaner
- Patch Kit
- Scrub Brush
- Leaf Vacuum

# LITEHOUSE ABOVE GROUND WINTERIZING INFORMATION

## General Maintenance

It is important to close your pool in the best possible condition; the following steps need to be taken to ensure this is done:

- 1) Vacuum and skim foreign material from the pool.
- 2) Remove all accessories from the pool (i.e. ladders, solar covers, etc.).
- 3) Drain your pool 3"-6" below the skimmer opening. Mark this level with a pen on your liner, wait for 48 hours and re-check the water level. If the water level has continued to lower, you probably have a leak. If you do have a leak it must be found and repaired. If not, the water may decrease to a level that causes permanent damage to the pool's structure.
- 4) Inspect and clean the metal portions of the pool. Use touch-up paint to repair any damaged or scraped areas of the pool.

## Chemicals

Be sure that your pool is properly balanced including sanitizer (chlorine, bromine, or ionization), pH, alkalinity, and calcium hardness levels. Once the water is balanced and drained to the correct level, Hercules winter kit(s) should be added at a rate of 1 kit per 12,000 gallons once the pool has been lowered to winter level.

*\*\* Note: Do not use winterizing kits in an Ion treated pool.*

## Filters

Turn the electrical breaker for the pool equipment off for the winter. Drain the filter system completely, disconnect all lines and remove all drain plugs from the pump and filter tank. Place the drain plugs in the hair and lint basket to insure your ability to find them in the spring. Apply waterproof grease to all o-rings to help prevent dry rot. Each of the 3 types of filters has its own set of closing instructions, refer to the owners manual or consult your Litehouse staff on the proper procedure for your system. No matter which system you own, it is always recommended that you store the system inside.

## Heaters

Be sure to turn your gas line off for the winter. Open the hose spigot on your heater and begin blowing all of the water out of your heater. Be sure to leave the hose spigot open during the winter months.

## Skimmer and Lights

Remove all items from the skimmers, clean and store. Plug the inside of the skimmer with the appropriate sized plug. An Aquador™, Gizmo, or Styrofoam ice compensator should be used to prevent damage to the skimmer from ice expansion. The Gizmo will act as an ice compensator and will take the pressure off the skimmer housing. Consult with your pool professional as to which compensator best meets your needs.

*\*\* FACT: Water changing into ice expands 10%, no structure will withstand this expansion without the necessary precautions.*

If the light is part of the return fitting, remove the light bulb from the light assembly and disconnect the transformer from the pool and store inside. The empty return assembly needs to be plugged from the inside, to prevent the water from exiting and possibly draining the pool.

## Covers

A pool cover is strongly recommended as a sound investment for the protection of your pools' appearance and longevity. There are two types of covers you may consider for your pool, a standard cover and one with a wind skirt. An ice compensator (water pillow) must be placed in the pool prior to placing the cover on. Depending on the size of the pool, more than one pillow maybe be required. The pillow should be inflated between 1/2 and 3/4 full of air (if over inflated the pillow will burst during the winter). The pillow should be placed in the center of the pool and secured, using twine, to the sides of the pool, the rope should not be taught. The winter cover should be draped over the pool and secured using a cable and winch. Depending on which type of cover you own, you will fasten the cover to the pool in different manners. Fencing and decking can present additional obstacles and concerns. Consult your dealer as to which cover and method of installation best meets your needs. After installing the cover on the pool, it is recommended that you take the extra precaution of adding at least one inch of water to the top of the cover to help prevent wind damage. More water may accumulate during the course of the winter; it is necessary that this extra water be removed from the top of the cover to prevent against damage to the pool.

*\*\* Important: A winter cover is not intended to keep people out of the pool.*

## Miscellaneous

If your pool is equipped with a chemical feeder, you will need to remove the chemicals from the feeder and place them on newspaper. This will allow them to dry out. Once they have completely dried out you will be able to place them back in their original container. If you own an automatic vacuuming system, such as a Kreepy Krauly, the hose should be broken down into the individual sections. These hoses are sold in short sections so that you can store them to prevent the hose from acquiring a memory and functioning improperly.