

Guidelines To Winterize Your Pressure Washer

1. Ensure that your pressure washer is in the off or stop position.
2. Turn off water inlet supply hooked either directly to the pressure washer pump or to a float tank on your pressure washer. Detach the supply hose from the water spigot to the pressure washer, drain the supply hose by starting at one end and rolling up the hose slowly which will gravity-drain the water out of the hose.
3. If you have quick couplers for your high pressure hose at both the pressure washer and at the trigger gun, un-couple at both ends. Drain the high pressure hose by starting at one end and rolling up the hose slowly which will gravity drain the water out of the hose. Next, point the trigger gun/wand assembly so the wand is pointing straight up in the air and pull the trigger open which will gravity flow the water from the gun/wand out the quick coupler at the bottom of the gun. If you do not have quick couplers at the pressure washer and the trigger gun, I recommend disconnecting the hose from the gun and the pressure washer. Follow the above instructions for draining the hose and gun/wand assembly. When getting it ready for use in the spring either install quick couplers for added convenience, or use removable Loctite or thread tape to re-seal the hose to the trigger gun and pressure washer.
4. If your pressure washer has a direct drive pump and no float tank, you can either use an antifreeze mixture or a blow down assembly to winterize your pressure washer. For gas engine or electric motor direct drive pump models without a float tank, you can purchase a Pump Saver Plus Winterizer part # EA/85.490.046 which consists of an anti-freeze solution in a bottle with a shut off valve that threads right on to your female garden hose fitting making it convenient to winterize your pressure washer. You can also use a Manual Blowdown Fitting Assembly part# 30/MABD that threads right in to your female garden hose fitting also and allows you to blow all of the water out of the pressure washer eliminating a freeze-up potential.
5. If your pressure washer is a cold model (no heating coil) but has a float tank the high pressure pump draws out of, start by having approximately 1 Gallon of RV Antifreeze solution ready. Verify that the product being used meets or exceeds the lowest temperature seen in your area of the country.
6. Turn machine switch to MOTOR ON and pour antifreeze solution into the float tank.
7. Immerse detergent suction hose into a separate container filled with 50/50 anti-freeze solution. Set detergent valve to a high position if unit has a control setting.
8. Draw the 50/50 antifreeze through the pump and chemical line until you visually see antifreeze emerge at the pressure washer outlet. Protection is now complete. Note: If you are winterizing a hot water pressure with a heating coil present, the process is the same, but you will need to have additional gallons of 50/50 antifreeze available to pour into the float tank. I cannot determine how many gallons are needed as it is totally determined by the size of your pressure washer (fitting size, pump size, and coil capacity).
9. Turn machine switch to STOP position.
10. Drain any gasoline that may be in the tank for the engine, or add sufficient fuel stabilizer for gasoline. Drain any Kerosene or Diesel Fuel that may be in the tank for the burner or add sufficient fuel stabilizer for diesel fuel. Additionally insure fuel stabilizer has been added to your fuel cans (gas and diesel) to ensure any remaining quantity is treated and avoid pouring bad fuel into your pressure washer before use in the spring. When water freezes in a pressure washer it causes extensive and expensive damage not covered under the manufacturer's warranty due to negligence. When water turns to ice it expands and cracks or splits fittings, hoses, pump heads etc. Gasoline can gum up the carburetor, fuel lines, and varnish in the fuel tank. Diesel fuel gels when in freezing temperatures if not treated, causing problems in the tank, lines, and burner system. Lastly Engine and Pump Oil Can get thick, losing its effectiveness as a lubricant. As with all equipment, if you take care of it, it will take care of you!

Disclaimer: Follow the guidelines published in the owner's manual by the manufacturer for proper winterization of your Pressure Washer. Pressure Services assumes no liability for damage caused to the pressure washer, property, or personal health if done improperly. If not familiar with proper procedures we recommend taking your pressure washer to an authorized service center.

Terry Lee Bosma, President, Pressure Services Inc.

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At Pressure Services Inc. we value your business as a customer. We hope you have found this article to be helpful and please give us a call when you need anything related to power washing equipment, accessories, or chemicals 1-800-666-3664 or find us on the web at;

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