



# Winterization

Winterization of the motorhome's water system is required in below-freezing temperatures to prevent damages to the water pump, water tank, water lines, water filter, water heater and holding tanks. Damages to the plumbing system due to lack of winterization are the renter's liability.

Depending on the temperatures, the following steps are the responsibility of the customer:

**Overnight - for a few hours - just a few degrees below freezing:**

- Empty the waste water tanks before the temperature drops below freezing for the night. After a freezing night, the valves will be frozen and the tanks cannot be emptied. Defrosting solid ice will take more than just a few degrees above freezing in the morning
- Keep the water heater on overnight
- Turn the furnace on; set at minimum of 55°F (13°C) – even if you are not staying in the vehicle for the night!  
It is strongly recommended to have electrical hook up as the furnace may drain the batteries in one night

**All day below or around freezing; below freezing all night**

If the day-time temperature remains below freezing or reaches barely above freezing, the water system has to be professionally winterized. This can only be done at a qualified RV service center or at a Road Bear RV branch and includes emptying the water tank, draining and bypassing the water heater and flushing the water system with a non-toxic antifreeze. Any cost associated with such a winterization (and de-winterization) is the renter's responsibility.

While a vehicle is fully winterized, the fresh water tank **CANNOT** be filled or the city-water be connected. Bottled water can be used to wash your hands, face or brush your teeth. Occasional rinsing of the drains with RV/Marine-approved antifreeze is required. When using the bathroom facilities of the motor home, antifreeze needs to be used to flush. A dilution of maximum 50% with (bottled) water is acceptable.

Vehicles picked-up at the DEN, NYC & SEA locations are always winterized between October 31<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>. Depending on weather conditions this period may be longer. Vehicles out of other rental locations may be winterized as well, depending on outside temperatures.

It is the renter's responsibility to have the vehicle winterized while on a trip at his/her own expense should the weather conditions require it. The renter is also financially responsible for having the vehicle re-winterized on the return trip if the vehicle was winterized at the time of pick up.

A \$100.00 winterization fee will be charged by Road Bear RV if the vehicle is returned non- winterized – regardless of the outside temperatures (exceptions only with prior authorization).

The renter will be fully responsible for any damages to the water system caused by freezing during their trip.

Washington and certain surrounding states require the carrying of snow chains from November 1<sup>st</sup> until April 1<sup>st</sup>. Road Bear RV will provide 1 set of chains to fulfill the state requirement(\$99.00 deposit), but insurance regulations do not allow their use (NO coverage of undercarriage damage and driving in unsafe conditions).

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Date

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Renter

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Print Name