

deWINTERIZATION CHECKLIST

Before you begin:

___ Trickle charge battery for 24 hours (repeat for additional batteries)

General work before starting motor:

- ___ Remove duck tape over the exhaust flaps or other areas with were closed by this method.
- ___ Tighten all sparkplugs. (if replacing plugs, WAIT till after you start the motor the first few times.)
- ___ Check impeller and raw water intake connections
- ___ Connect all battery(s) and grease the leads and battery posts with **Di-Electric Grease ONLY**.
- ___ Re-install the drain plugs on either side of the engine block and on the back of the exhaust manifolds. Reinstall knock sensor (if applicable).
- ___ Reinstall / Check all hoses, connectors and clamps. It's also a good idea to check the transmission cooler screen. Make sure the tranny cooler doesn't have debris in its screen.
- ___ Check your Air filter / Flame arrestor. Clean if needed with an approved carburetor cleaner or plain soap and water. Dry thoroughly before you reinstall it.
- ___ Clean/Wipe down any pooled fluids on motor and in bilge.
- ___ **Service the starter.** With the battery disconnected, remove the wires from the starter. Remove the starter and inspect it for damage and rust. Rotate the gear so it climbs the shaft and lube the shaft with light grease. Let it return to its normal position and move it up a couple of times. Grease the gear, reinstall it and reconnect all wires.
- ___ **Replace Fuel/Water separator** (If applicable) (port side, front of the bilge just below deck level). You may have to crimp the fuel line if there's no anti-siphon or shut off valve on top of the tank. Also, clean carb screen by unscrewing the metal fuel line to the carb. You can soak it in clean fuel or carb cleaner.
- ___ Install a NEW Impeller. This does a lot for piece of mind. Toss the old ones in the glove box/tool kit as a spare.
- ___ Reinstall engine kill switch.
- ___ Hook boat up to water cooling source.
- ___ Toggle key to prime motor with fuel (EFI engine only)
- ___ Warm up the engine to operating temp. Check ALL gauges including oil and voltmeter. Check for leaks in everything during warm-up period.
 - * If you have a closed cooling system. While engine is running and has reached regular operating temperature, carefully open the coolant reservoir and check the coolant level, top off using a 50/50 mix of coolant and water.
- ___ **NOTE:** If coolant is other than green in color, (meaning brown or chocolate) then you need to replace the fluid. Don't trust this brown colored fluid.
- ___ Shut motor down and let stand for a few minutes. Check oil levels. Fill/Remove oil as needed.
- ___ Check Transmission fluid level. Add if needed.
- ___ **Change the spark plugs.** If it's been a couple of years, it might do you good to change the plug wires, too. Before you install new spark plugs, run the motor long enough to clean out any fogging oil that was sprayed into the cylinders in the fall. The oil can foul new plugs and cause a decrease in performance.
- ___ Look for rust spots on the engine and touch it up with high temp engine paint. (be sure to clean with acetone first)
- ___ Spray down the engine with WD-40 as/if needed.
- ___ With a needle, check the speedo pickups to be sure they are not blocked. Next, remove the speedo lines at the front of the boat and blow the water out of the lines. Reconnect them when you're done.
- ___ Check the Perfect Pass paddle wheel. Clean and lube as necessary
- ___ Check bolts on coupler for tightness.
- ___ Visually check/inspect all belts. Replace is necessary. If you do replace, be sure to check all pulleys for wobbles.

Trailer

- ___ Check electrical connections and bulbs for proper operation.
- ___ Lube/Repack bearings as needed.
- ___ Check tires (including spare) for wear or Dry-Rot that could cause failure. *Cracking on the side wall of your trailer tire(s) should be REPLACED IMMEDIATELY!
- ___ Check winch cable/belt for wear or chafing. Replace as needed.
- ___ Grease Trailer hubs (be sure to use enough grease to drive out the old grease from the release hole)
- ___ Grease Torsion axle (if applicable)
- ___ Check Tow vehicle electrical connections and ball for wear or signs of problems.
- ___ Increase the tire pressure to manufactures recommended PSI rating(consult your dealer if unclear about tire pressure).

Ballast Systems:

- Reinstall all ballast bags.
- Check all pumps and hoses for proper operation and blockages.
- Check all clamps and hull fittings.
- Lube pump O-rings as needed.

Swim Platform (applies to Teak platforms only)

If you maintained your platform over the winter, you may be able to avoid these steps all together, otherwise here is a simple set of instructions for getting your platform up to speed.

1. Wash platform with soap/water and a hard bristle brush. Let dry completely.
2. Lightly sand teak wood with 150grit, then 300grit then finally with 600grit sand paper. Rinse platform to remove all dust. Let fully dry.
3. Apply teak oil lightly and let soak in.
4. Apply additional 1-2 coats every day over next 2-3 days. Apply additional coats as needed in your situation.

Note: Eventually the wood will stop absorbing oil and could drip on the floor.)

Motor/Electrical:

- Wipe off excess grease from the prop shaft inside and outside of the hull (if applicable).
- Turn steering wheel left and right several times to check for smooth operation (grease rudder if needed)
- Grease steering cable if needed
- Reinstall all electronics that were removed in the fall. Add Di-electric grease if needed or spray the open connectors with a moisture-displacing lubricant to protect the contacts from the formation of corrosion.
- Check bilge pump and connections (if brave, add enough water to bilge to activate pump automatically to ensure proper operation.
- Get under dash and check electrical connections for looseness. Tighten things as needed.
- Check blower motor for proper operation and that nothing is nested in the tube or blocking the fan.
- Check all Navigation lights.
- Check wired flood lights or check batteries in any portable flashlights. Replace as needed.
- Check all interior and compartment lights for proper operation. Replace as needed.

General items:

- Is your Registration valid?
- Is your Boat Insurance valid?
- Is your Lake permit valid?
- Is your Launch Ramp permit valid?

- Check your Safety supplies. (First Aid kit, Flares, throw cushion)
- Check Anchor rope for chafing, replace as needed
- Wash and Wax boat.
- Vacuum the carpet.
- Spray seats down with vinyl protectant.
- Remove Moisture Absorber & Dehumidifier packs
- Check Fire Extinguisher is properly charged, Replace if needed.
- Canvas covers should be washed with soap/water.
- Top off gas tank as necessary.
- Tighten stuffing box – according to your manufacturers instructions
- Lubricate the trailer winch and any other moving parts on the trailer. Grease the wheel bearings.

*There are other bits of periodic maintenance that are not listed here, but should be in your Owners Manual.