

## Draining the Water from Your Class A RV

- Water Tanks
  - a. Disconnect the outside water source, turn off your water pump and open every low point drain
  - b. Flush and drain your black and grey tanks
  - c. Drain your fresh water tank with the low point drain valves (one for hot and cold)
  - d. Go inside and turn on faucets to make water drain faster
  - e. Flush all toilets
  - f. Turn off power switches and breakers for the water heater or hydronic heating system
  - g. Turn off refrigerator power switch
  - h. While tanks are draining, remove all water filters (including the main one in your wet bay and any inline, under sink and refrigerator filters -**very important**)
  - i. Reattach the main water filter canister and all water filter plugs from the filters you removed (so that the antifreeze doesn't leak out)

- Reverse Osmosis System (if you have one)

You need to get the water out of your reverse osmosis water system, because if it freezes it will destroy the unit.

I checked with the industry expert, Dave at the [RV Water Filter Store](#) and he recommends these steps:

- a. Drain the unit
  - b. Remove the filters
  - c. Remove the membrane and put in a zip lock bag to keep it from drying out
  - d. Store it in your home refrigerator to keep bacteria from growing
- Water Heater
    - a. You must drain your hot water heater during winterizing- **Never drain it while under pressure or when it is hot!**
    - b. Open the hot water heater relief valve being careful it doesn't spray water in your face!
    - c. Remove the drain plug which is probably an anode
    - d. Once drained, place fresh Teflon tape on drain plug threads and carefully replace it by screwing on by hand first and then using wrench while making sure not to cross thread. If you cross thread your drain plug it will leak.
    - e. Go to wet bay turn the valve to bypass your hot water heater so antifreeze doesn't go through it.
  - Tankless Water Heaters

DO NOT put the water heater in by-pass mode. Instead, blow it out, and install the antifreeze as directed for a hydronic heater.

Aqua-Hot Hydronic Heater- Courtesy of [Aqua-Hot](#) (more info is available on their website)

According to Aqua-Hot, not winterizing the Aqua-Hot when freezing temperatures are present will result in SERIOUS damage to the Aqua-Hot's Domestic Water Heating System. Also, be sure to use only FDA approved, RV antifreeze.

Please follow these instructions carefully when winterizing the Aqua-Hot's hot water heating system:

1. Completely drain the fresh water storage tank.
2. Disconnect the domestic water demand pump's suction line from the fresh water storage tank.
3. Attach an adequate piece of hose onto the suction side of the domestic water pump.
4. Place the opposite end of the hose into an adequate supply of the RV antifreeze and allow it to pump through the system.
5. Open and close all interior and exterior water faucets, one at a time, until ONLY pure RV antifreeze is present. Perform this procedure for both hot and cold faucets.
6. Remove the hose from the RV antifreeze and reconnect the domestic water demand pump's suction line to the fresh water storage tank.

Fresh Water Reclamation System

Since several RV manufacturers offer the Aqua View SHOWMI\$ER, I am including the instructions from their website. If you have a different brand, I suggest you contact the manufacturer for specific instructions.

The important point is DON'T FORGET that the system requires winterization too!

Courtesy of [Aqua View SHOWMI\\$ER](#) website:

- a. Cycle the valve to the bypass position to purge the water out of the line back to the fresh water tank while pressurized air supply is connected.
  - b. Then place the valve back to normal flow mode to the shower head, and then purge the shower.
  - c. Do not leave the valve in bypass mode when running antifreeze in the line because it will allow antifreeze into the fresh tank.
- Refrigerator- this takes two people
- a. Assuming you already emptied the contents of your refrigerator in the step above, turn the Fresh Water Valve off
  - b. Outside- unhook the fresh water supply and drain
  - c. Inside- use a cup to drain the residual water and ice from the water dispenser
  - d. Make sure that all refrigerator water filters are removed and the plugs in place
  - e. Empty the ice maker

- f. Prop your RV refrigerator doors open using a towel or other method to avoid mildew
- RV Dishwasher Winterization
  - a. Run a short cycle to drain all the water out and make sure there is no residual water in the tub.
  - b. You will flush antifreeze through your dishwasher in the steps below.