Hydra POOLS

AQUA GENIE® SKIMMER AND CHLORINATOR

Winterizing Instructions

Close your pool the right way so the plumbing, skimmer and liner come through the winter ready for spring.

What you'll need

- Adjustable winterizing slip plugs for step and Cozy Cove jets
- Threaded winterizing plugs for all returns
- Aqua Genie® winterizing cover (#H03116N)
- Gizzmos for each skimmer (check for cracks first)
- Air compressor with a quick disconnect fitting, or a shop vac
- Funnel with a short piece of hose
- Duct tape
- Pool water test strips
  Non-toxic pool antifreeze (RV antifreeze)
- Dichlor shock
- Granular winterizing algaecide
- Sequestering agent

Close the pool

1. **Test your water.** Use test strips to check your water chemistry. Your local pool store can also test a sample and tell you exactly how to balance it.
2. **Clean the pool.** Vacuum and net out all debris, then brush the walls and floor.
3. **Balance and treat.** Add your winterizing chemicals following the directions on each product label. Skipping the directions can fade your liner or make the water unsafe. Let the chemicals circulate for 10 to 12 hours before you backwash the filter.
4. **Prepare the equipment.** Remove all chlorine tablets from the Aqua Genie® chlorine cartridge and any other feeders or floating chlorinators. Backwash the filter until the sight glass runs clear, then empty the pump basket. Use the backwash cycle to drain the water level below the skimmers.

5. **Blow out the plumbing.** Use an air compressor or shop vac to clear the water from the skimmers, filter valve and pump. Any water left in the lines can freeze and crack your pipes, which leads to leaks and costly repairs. When bubbles appear at the main drain and jets, plug the main drain at the equipment pad or quickly close its valve to create an air lock. Cover exposed pipes and the skimmer deck lid with duct tape.

6. **Plug the jets.** Once the water is blown out, install winterizing plugs in the jets and returns and add antifreeze as described below.

Blow out the Aqua Genie® return line

Work through these steps after the main plumbing is clear.

1. Remove the orifice plate and gasket.
2. Remove the plug on the front of the pump.
3. Insert a quick disconnect fitting for your air compressor.
4. Close the valve for the Aqua Genie®.
5. Charge the system with 20 lbs of air pressure.
6. Open the valve.
7. Repeat steps 5 and 6 several times until all the water is out.
8. Using a funnel with a short piece of hose, pour about ½ gallon of RV antifreeze down the return pipe.
9. Put the orifice plate gasket back in, then add a piece of vinyl or a solid orifice plate (#HS110S) and reinstall the orifice plate.
10. Carefully reinsert the screws and tighten them.
11. Blow out the suction line, add ½ gallon of antifreeze and insert a Gizzmo.

Install the Aqua Genie® winter cover.

The patent-pending Aqua Genie® winterizing cover uses a neoprene gasket to seal the front faceplate watertight, and it still lets you use a Gizzmo through the winter. Start by installing the gasket and assembling the cover.

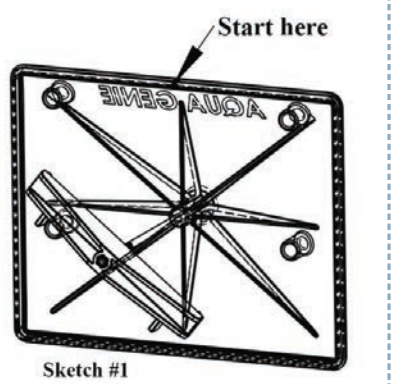
Install the gasket

1. Start at the top center of the gasket channel. (Sketch 1)
2. Install the gasket with the narrow side in the channel. (Sketch 2)
3. Work the gasket into the channel until it is well seated.

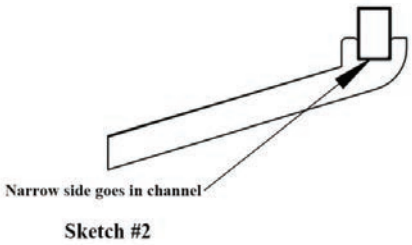
Assemble the winter cover

4. Place the threaded rod through the hole in the winter cover and assemble the parts in the order shown. (Sketch 3)

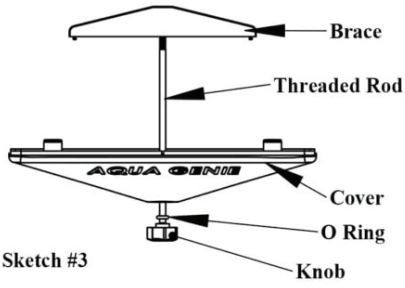
> **Note:** The O-ring goes between the knob and the cover.



Sketch 1. Start at the top center of the gasket channel.



Sketch 2. Narrow side of the gasket goes in the channel.

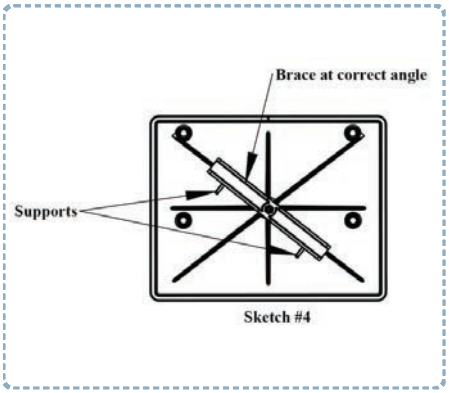


Sketch 3. Assembly order on the threaded rod. O-ring sits between the knob and cover.

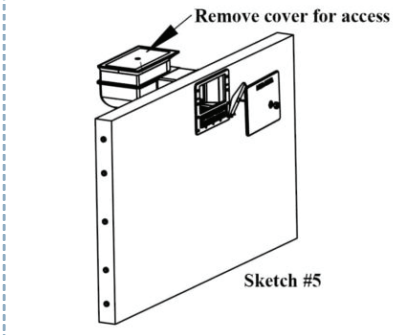
Install the winter cover

1. Remove the Aqua Genie® cover to get access for installation. (Sketch 5)
2. Orient the brace from the top to the bottom corner of the cover, with the supports facing down. (Sketch 4)
3. Guide the assembled winter cover through the weir opening. You do not need to remove the weir assembly. The brace goes behind the lip in the pressure throat. (Sketch 5)
4. Hold the cover against the faceplate with one hand and rotate the brace until it is horizontal.
5. Turn the knob by hand until the gasket seats on the faceplate. The brace will tighten against the lip on the pressure throat. (Sketch 6)
6. Drain the water in the basket well and follow your pump and filter manufacturer's winterizing recommendations.

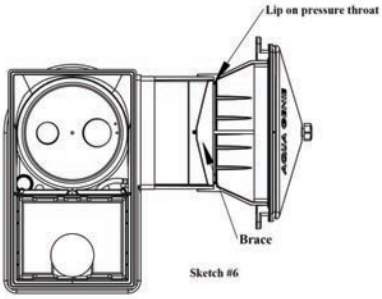
⚠ **Caution:** Tighten the knob by hand only. Overtightening will distort the gasket.



Sketch 4. Brace runs top to bottom corner, supports facing down.



Sketch 5. Remove the cover and guide the winter cover through the weir opening.



Sketch 6. Brace horizontal and knob tightened until the gasket seats.

Need a winter cover or replacement parts?
Need the Aqua Genie® winterizing cover (#H03116N) or other replacement parts, visit **aquagenie.com** to find a dealer or retailer.