

Winterization

All Applications

Note:

This winterizing guide applies only to the stern drive. Please consult your manual for winterizing instructions for the engine.

When you are done boating for the season you will want to make sure that there is no water in the drive. At the very least you will want to check the gear lube for water intrusion, although it is recommended to change the oil once per season. This is also a good time to change the impeller.

To check for water in the oil, position the drive so that the lower oil drain plug is at the lowest point. The water and oil separates after time, so this is best done after the drive has not been used for a few days. Remove the oil drain plug and see what the condition of the oil is. If the oil looks okay, then replace the plug. If it is milky, or water comes out you know that the drive will need further servicing. Any water left in the drive could freeze and cause major damage to the unit. Make sure that if you drain a noticeable amount of oil out of the drive that you fill it back up.

You will also want to store the boat with the drive in the down position. This will make sure that no water gets trapped in the unit. Water that is trapped can freeze and cause cracking. The bellows also likes to be stored in the down position as opposed to the up position where they are stretched out.

Finally, on the SE116 and SE121 drives, you will want to make sure that the speedometer pick up hole on the lower front of the drive is not blocked. You can use a small paper clip or other suitable device to make sure.

