



TULARE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

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Dear pool operators,

As temperatures begin to drop, winterizing your pool will ensure it is ready for use next year. Without proper winterization, water freezing and expanding can damage your pool/spa equipment. Follow these steps to protect your pool/spa and equipment from inclement weather:

1. Thoroughly clean the pool

- ✓ Brush the walls, skim the surface, and vacuum your pool/spa to ensure it is free of organic material

2. Balance the water

- ✓ Ideal water conditions are:
 - pH range is from 7.2 to 7.6.
 - Alkalinity is from range from 80 to 120 ppm.
 - Calcium hardness is from 175 to 275 ppm.

3. Prevent bacteria and algae growth

- ✓ Apply shock treatment and algaecide to the water

4. Prevent freeze damage

- ✓ Clean and drain water from pool/spa equipment such as the filter, pump, and heater
- ✓ Reduce the water level 4-6 inches below skimmer line

5. Empty water from return lines

- ✓ Use an air blower to force water out of the plumbing system and plug return lines to prevent water from entering

6. Cover pool/spa with a solid or mesh pool cover

Below are resource links to help aid in winterizing your pool.

[Video tutorial](#)

[Step by step article](#)

*****Reminders:**

- ❖ **Complete any needed maintenance before the pool season starts**
- ❖ **For operators who have NOT yet submitted their Public Pools and Spas Compliance Form, please do as soon as possible**