

R-Pod Dewinterization Process

This process document corresponds to the YouTube video [R-Pod Dewinterization](#). Please first watch this video for visual understanding of the process. If you are getting started, some of the items seen or mentioned are available on our [Amazon storefront](#). If this process is of value, we appreciate you starting your shopping from our store as it helps support the channel.

Dewinterization Process Steps:

Preliminary Item - Open the Hot Water Tank

1. Turn the valves on the hot water tank lines to no longer bypass the tank. The valves will point to the hot water tank when allowing water to flow to the tank. The tank is likely under a bed or under a cabinet in your RV. If you can locate the water heater unit on the outside of your RV, this is where the tank should be inside the RV. You may have to remove plywood or a panel to get to this area.



Part I - Sanitize the Plumbing System

2. Fill the freshwater tank with bleach solution.
 - a. Fill the freshwater tank 1/3 full of water.
 - b. Mix bleach solution, ¼ cup of liquid bleach per 15 gallons of freshwater tank space.
 - c. Mix the bleach solution into some sort of container so that it can be poured into the freshwater tank. I use a ½ gallon water jug to mix the solution.
 - d. Pour the bleach solution into the freshwater tank, then fill the tank full of water. I poured the solution into a funnel then into the tank ([see video](#)).
3. Turn the water pump on to fill the hot water tank with bleach solution. It may take a few minutes given a 6-gallon hot water tank.
4. Open the hot water faucet at the kitchen sink. RV food-safe pink antifreeze should come out first if this is what you used to winterize. The faucet may spit air and water a bit as the hot water tank fills. Bleach solution water should eventually come out of the faucet. Once you get a constant stream of only water, you should smell a bit of bleach from the water at the faucet.

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5. Turn off the hot water faucet and turn on the cold-water side of the faucet until bleach solution water comes out. Pink antifreeze should come out first, then a constant stream of bleach solution water. Again, you should be able to smell a bit of bleach in the water.
6. Flush pink antifreeze out of the bathroom faucets, both hot and cold sides. Do this at the sink, tub, and shower, and at the toilet until the pink antifreeze is flushed and bleach solution runs at each outlet.
7. Turn the water pump off and empty bleach solution water from toilet seal. Best not to leave bleach solution on the seal. Manually pour a bit of non-bleach solution water on the seal.
8. Drain antifreeze from outdoor shower and any water quick connect. Make sure bleach solution is coming through once the antifreeze is out.
9. Refill the freshwater tank full to make up for the water used to in the prior steps.
10. Let the bleach solution sit in the system for 3-6 hours to sanitize the system.

Part II – Flush the Sanitization Solution

11. Turn on the water pump and open the faucets in the kitchen sink. You should still smell the bleach solution in the lines.
12. Go outside and under the RV and open the drain to the freshwater tank and allow it to drain the beach solution fully. This will take a few minutes depending on the size of your drain plug and tank.
13. Ensure the water pump is off. Drain the hot water tank at the water heater. Remove the cover and make sure you release the pressure using the pressure release valve. If your water heater has an anode rod, remove it carefully to allow the water tank to drain ([see video](#)). If your water heater does not have an anode rod, leave the pressure release valve open while you open the low point drains under the RV to empty the tank.
14. Fill the freshwater tank with fresh water and run fresh water through all lines and faucets in the RV and through the outside faucets. At the beginning of the season, I do this twice, by emptying the freshwater tank a second time and filling it again and running it through all the lines and faucets.
15. Run water through the city water line and open each faucet again to purge the lines of any remaining bleach solution.
16. Replace any plywood or panel removed to get at the hot water tank. Do a quick visual inspection to verify there are no water leaks before sealing the area.

That should do it, you are dewinterized and should now be ready to use your RV's plumbing system!