

R-Pod Winterization Process Document

This process document corresponds to the YouTube video: [R-Pod Winterization](#). Please watch this video for visual understanding of the process. If you are getting started, many of the items 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.

R-Pod Winterization Process:

1. Make sure the black and gray wastewater tanks are empty.
2. Outside and underneath the trailer, unscrew your freshwater tank's drain cap and allow it to empty.
3. Turn on the water pump and open a faucet to suck up any remaining water in the line between the tank and the pump. Once complete close the faucet and turn off the water pump.
4. Open both low point drains outside and underneath the camper.
5. Attach a [blow-out plug](#)* to the city water connection outside. Use an air compressor to apply LOW air pressure (less than 20 psi) for several seconds. We have this blow out plug on our [Amazon Storefront](#) if needed.
6. Once you have finished blowing out the city-water line, remove the air blow-out plug from the city water inlet and stow your air compressor.
7. Confirm that the water pump is off. Go outside and open the water heater cover and open the pressure release valve to release water pressure from the water tank. Do not stand directly in front of the pressure release valve when doing this. After pressure is released, close the valve.
8. Remove the [anode rod](#)* (mine uses a 1 1/16" socket) and inspect and replace it if necessary (about every two years). Water should exit the hot water tank at the anode rod hole. It may take several minutes to drain.
9. While the tank is draining go inside and open every faucet so suction will pull water out of every line and faucet.
10. Wait for the water to stop running out of the anode rod hole and low point drains (still open from Step 4).
11. Using a garden hose, flush any debris from inside the water heater tank through the anode rod hole.
12. Wrap the threads of the anode rod with fresh Teflon tape and re-insert the anode rod.
13. Close the water heater cover and the freshwater tank drain while you are outside. Leave the low point drains open. Inside, close all the faucets.
14. Go inside and locate your water pump and hot water tank. The tank should be inside where the hot water heater cover is outside (from Step 7). For the R-Pod 179, the tank and water pump are under the bed. Once located, open the access panel.
15. Turn the bypass valves on the lines to bypass the hot water tank. The valves are on the lines leading to the hot water tank. The water tank must be stored dry - do not try to fill it with antifreeze.
16. On the intake line for the water pump, you'll notice a valve and about 24" of tubing that's open on one end. Flip the valve on that line and put the open end into your jug of

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RV antifreeze (use only Pink RV Antifreeze). The pump will now draw from the jug of antifreeze instead of your freshwater tank.

17. Go outside and place a small bucket under the still-open low-point drains to catch rv antifreeze.
18. Go inside and turn the water pump on for a few seconds, then turn it off. Water and then pink RV antifreeze should come out of the low-point drains and into the bucket.
19. Go outside and verify the low-point drains are dripping pink. You may need to cycle the pump a few more seconds to be sure. It helps to have someone helping at this step. Once confirmed that the low point drains have pink antifreeze, close both low-point drains. You can empty the bucket of RV antifreeze into the gray tank.
20. Turn on the water pump and then at the kitchen sink open the faucet until the water flow changes to becomes pink antifreeze. Do the hot and cold sides separately. Repeat in the bathroom sink, shower, outside shower, and any outside water quick-connect.
21. Run the toilet until the water is pink. Leave some pink antifreeze in the bottom of the toilet to keep the drain valve from drying out over the winter.
22. Pull the hose out of the antifreeze bottle just enough so it can't suck up any more antifreeze. Open a faucet again for a second or two until the antifreeze is out of the intake line, then turn off the water pump. This keeps the sticky antifreeze from running all over the floor when you pull the intake completely out of the bottle.
23. Close the valve near the water pump so the pump will again draw from the freshwater tank.
24. Stow the intake hose and close the access panel.
25. Pour some RV antifreeze down the kitchen sink, bathroom sink, and shower drain p-traps.
26. Set the fridge's door latch so it stays open. This will prevent mold from growing while the trailer is in storage.
27. Remove and stow the smoke detector battery and leave the detector door open as a reminder to replace the battery in the spring.

*As an Amazon Associate, I earn from qualifying purchases.