



Winterizing Your Interstate





Winterizing Your Interstate and Storage Ideas

There is more to winterizing an Airstream than just getting the water out of the pipes, like battery storage etc., but protecting the plumbing system from freezing is where we begin.



The Plumbing System--Winterizing with air: Blowing Out the System

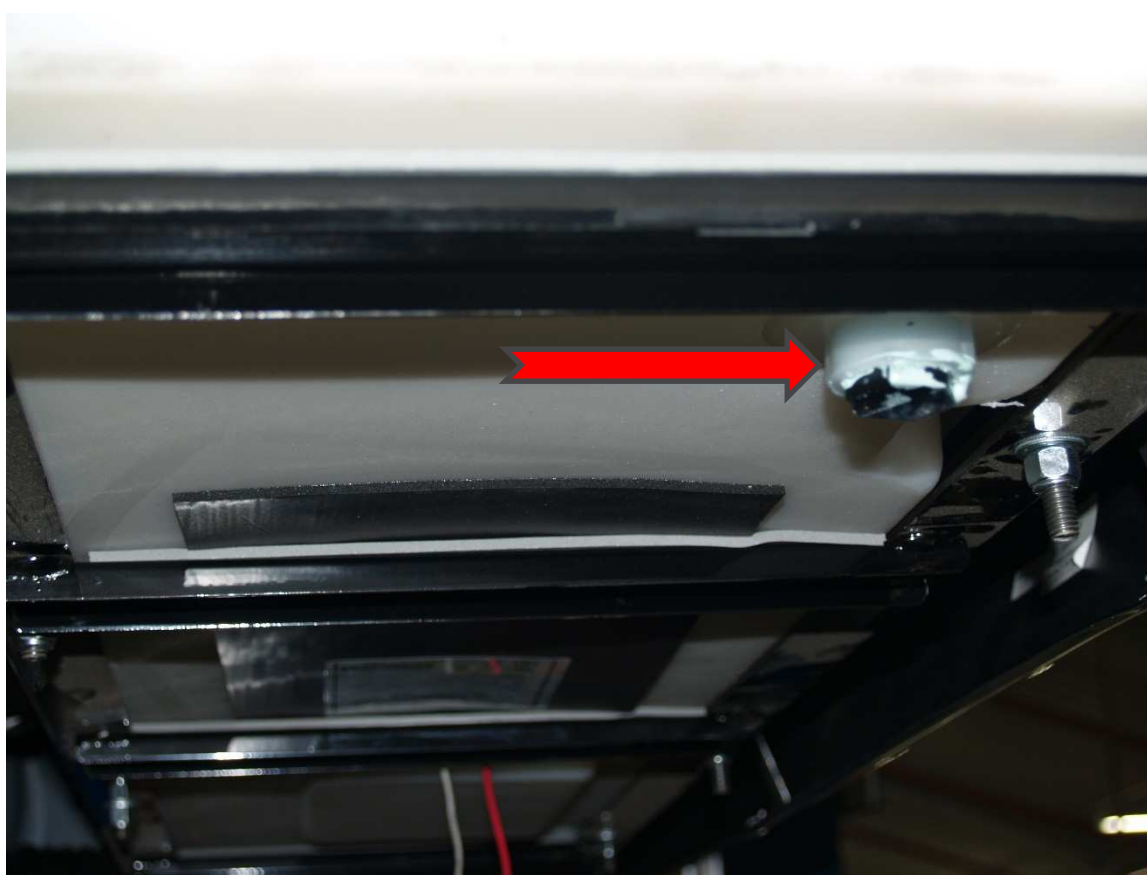
1. Drain fresh water tank.
2. Dump and flush both black and gray water holding tanks, leave gray water valve open.
3. Drain hot water heater and reinstall plug. Switch bypass valve so water cannot enter water heater.
4. Screw compressed air adapter into the fresh water inlet. The adapter is available from Camping World or most RV dealers.
5. Apply compressed air, keeping the pressure less than 60 lbs/sq inch.
6. Open the bathroom, kitchen, and outside shower faucets one at a time, allowing the compressed air to force the water out of the line. Switching the faucet between hot and cold. Don't forget the toilet.
7. Open each low point drain to let any remaining in lines escape.
8. Remove the compressed air source and adapter.
9. Attach the Blow Out Plug to the black tank flush inlet and apply air to remove any water from the tank flush check valve.
10. You can now unhook outlet side water line from water pump and run pump to expel any remaining water.
11. Pour a few cups of RV antifreeze down each drain and toilet allowing the area at the dump valves to be winterized.
12. Using approximately 1-1 1/2 gallon of RV antifreeze you will need to pour this into the toilet while you have the toilet valve open. You will then need to open your black gate valve then turn on the macerator pump until the RV antifreeze comes out of the hose

You are done



Fresh Water Tank Drain

Fresh water tank drain plug located behind the drivers side front tire. Remove drain plug using a 1" wrench to drain tank. When reinstalling you can use pipe tape to seal the threads.





Dumping Tanks

Dump All Holding Tanks

First step

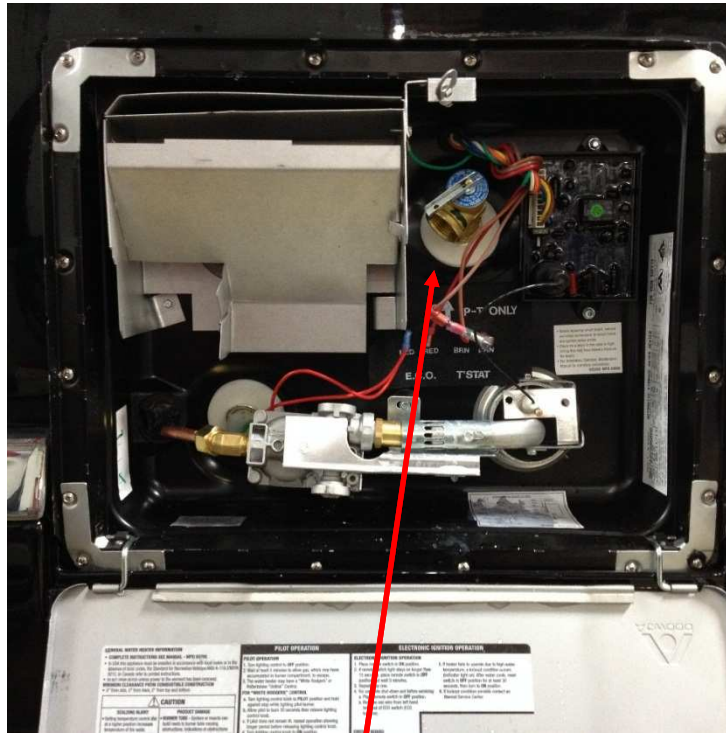
1. Locate sewer control panel on Passenger side located above the macerator hose reel.
2. To empty your black water hold your black valve button up until it opens. (light will come on)
3. Turn waste pump switch on until tank is empty. Once tank is empty close valve making sure the light is off.
4. Empty your grey tank. Repeat the same process using the gray valve switch.
5. Turn waste pump switch on until tank is empty.

You want to do this in this order so that you are rinsing the black water hose out after each use.





Drain Water Heater



Relieve the pressure by using the pressure relief valve



Remove water heater drain plug using a 15/16" socket



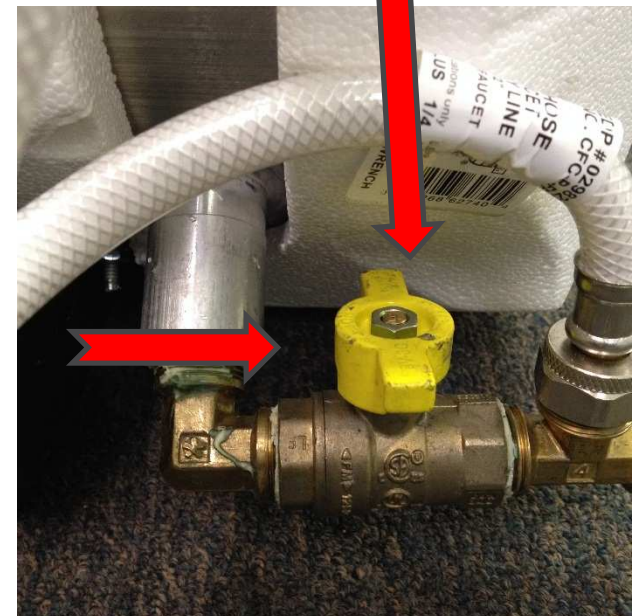
Rotate Water Heater Bypass

This is located under the rear lounge. You will gain access from opening the rear doors.

Rotate valve clockwise for OFF and counterclockwise to be ON.



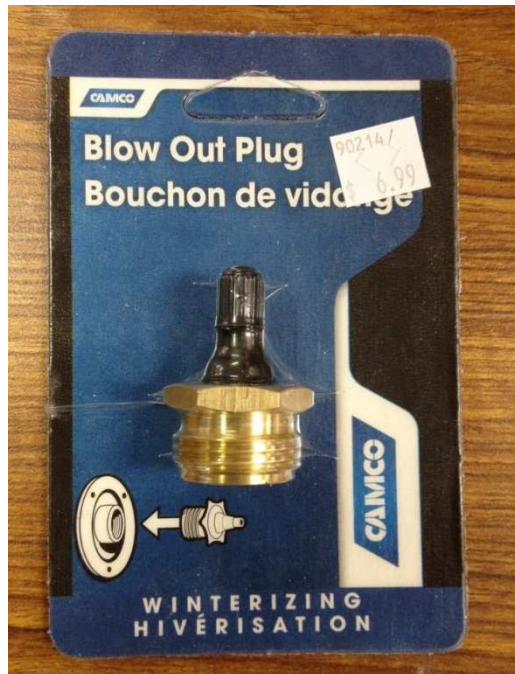
OFF



ON



Winterizing With Air



Part number: 90214W



Located on the drivers Side.



Black tank flush located in the macerator hose compartment

Screw compressed air adapter into both the fresh water inlet and black tank flush and pressurize to remove water from lines.



Open and blow out all faucets and hand sprays



You would need to do this at the galley/lavatory faucet, exterior shower, and the toilet.

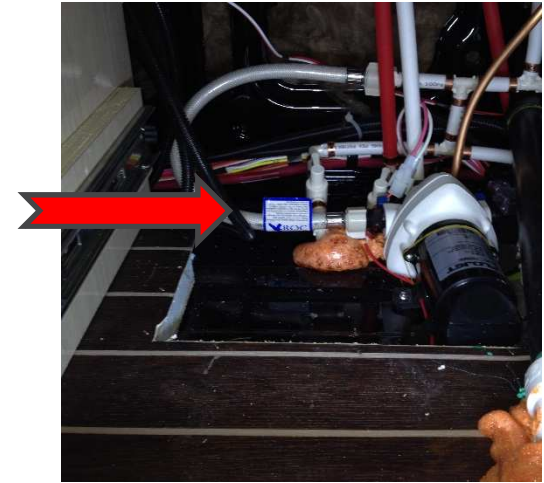


You will need to rotate faucet controls from hot to cold to let air force water from all water lines and connections. You will also need to depress toilet foot pedal to allow water to be removed from toilet valve.



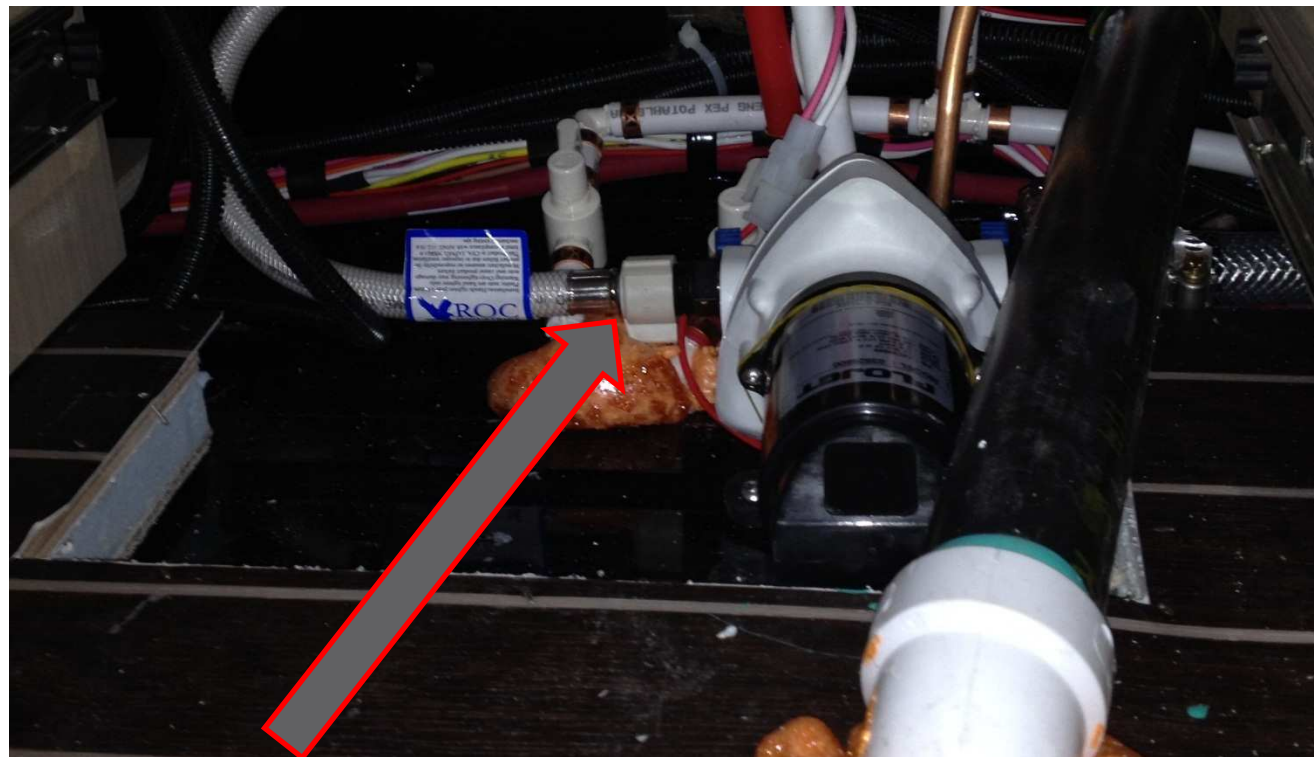
Low Point Drains

Located under the drivers side cup holder and under the microwave





Remove water line from output side of pump. Have a towel with you and have it at the output and turn pump on, any remaining water in the pump will be pumped out. *(You have already empty the fresh tank)*



OUTPUT SIDE OF PUMP



Pump and Pump Guard (strainer)



Water pump strainer is located
On the input side of pump.

Make sure all water has been removed



You will need 2 gallons of RV Antifreeze. You will put $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon into the drains the other $1 \frac{1}{2}$ gallon in the toilet. You will then need to open your black gate valve then turn on the macerator pump until the RV antifreeze comes out of the hose.





Winterizing With Antifreeze

Winterize Kit
Part Number: 100363W



Propylene Ethanol Blend
Part Number: 360095





Choices of RV anti-freeze

There are several choices of RV anti-freeze on the market that you can use to winterize your trailer and all three provide adequate freeze protection when used according to label instructions. There are different levels of freeze protection and you will want to pick one based on your areas average winter temperatures.

Propylene Glycol based: This type of anti-freeze is non-flammable, non-toxic and safe for all RV plumbing. Propylene glycol is a lubricant and will actually work to extend the life of the seals in your faucets and valves. In my opinion this type of anti-freeze is the safest to use if you are pumping anti-freeze through the entire plumbing system.

Propylene/Ethanol Blend: This product is non-toxic and generally safe for RV plumbing systems. However, it is unknown what concentration of ethanol it would take to cause any unpleasant tastes or smells in RV plumbing systems and or dry out plumbing seals. I would use this type of anti-freeze when blowing out the plumbing system with air, the anti-freeze would only be used in p-traps, toilet and tank drain valves etc.

Ethanol (alcohol) based: Ethanol is extremely flammable; and has been known to cause unpleasant smells or taste in plumbing systems and should only be used with certain types of water lines, such as Pex tubing. Since it is made from alcohol, it can dry out the rubber seals that are used in faucets and gate valves. I would only use this type of anti-freeze when blowing out the plumbing system with air, the anti-freeze would only be used in p-traps, toilet and tank drain valves etc.

(Never use automotive anti-freeze in your RV plumbing system! It is Highly Toxic and requires proper disposal.)

Always read the label before using any RV anti-freeze and follow listed directions.



Some quick winter storage reminders.

- Shut off the propane valve at your remote fill area.
- Make sure your batteries are charged, we also recommend disconnecting them while stored for long periods of time.
- Make sure that your tires are properly inflated, clean and covered to protect from UV rays. Sun and air pollutants can also cause deterioration of the rubber compound, causing dry-rot in your tires.
- Apply dielectric grease to 7 way cord connections to prevent corrosion while in storage.
- If your water heater is gas and electric make sure the electric heating element is turned off. This will protect the element if the unit is plugged in while being stored or before water is put back into system next spring.



Some quick winter storage reminders, cont.

- Leave the fridge and freezer doors open. To help dry out the refrigerator and freezer compartments prior to storage, crumple up newspaper and put in freezer and lower refrigerator compartment for 24 to 48 hours to absorb moisture and then remove papers.
- Remove all food items, paper and cardboard from closets and cabinets. We don't want to encourage winter guests (rodents).
- Leave cabinet, closet and cabinet doors open when storing for better circulation and humidity control.
- Wash your Airstream before storing, especially the roof. Washing the roof will let you inspect for any water leaks, loose or cracked sealants or any damage to AC covers or vents. If you see anything damaged or looks questionable get it corrected before putting in storage.



Batteries Storage for Winter

- **Should I remove my batteries from my Airstream for the winter?**
 - Batteries will last longer if kept charged, and having the battery stored in a garage or workshop makes monitoring and charging the battery/batteries easier
 - Removing the battery also gives you the opportunity to have your battery tested (load tested at battery supplier) and inspected for any damage to the battery case (leaking fluid or bulging sides).
 - It is also a good time to inspect battery terminals and cable ends for corrosion. Clean them with a wire brush and apply a protective coating to battery posts and cable ends.
 - You can leave the batteries in your Airstream when storing if you keep them charged, this will require plugging unit in or hooking up to a charger at least monthly. Batteries should be fully charged when placed in storage and maintained to keep batteries from freezing.
- *Airstream does not recommend leaving unit plugged in when in storage.*



Store Interstate On Gravel or Concrete

- Helps protect tires from moisture
- Keep tires fully inflated
- Parking in an area with tall grass or a wooded area can lead to unwanted visitors
- Never store where overhanging tree branches can fall
- Store in an area that you can keep an eye on trailer



Thank You

