

# Winterization Guide

Protect your BlueCube through freezing weather

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## When To Winterize

If left on, your BlueCube can run right through winter. As long as the unit has power and water is circulating 24/7, moving water resists freezing. Winterization becomes necessary during **sustained cold spells where temperatures stay below 20°F (-6°C) for several days** — it is the week- and two-week-long freezes, combined with the risk of a power outage, that pose the biggest threat.

- **Staying home, unit powered and circulating:** you can keep running through winter. If you plan to run your BlueCube all winter, call us first — we'll walk you through your setup.
- **Away from home for an extended period:** drain the unit entirely before you leave. This is a precaution in case a breaker trips or the power goes out while you're away and no one is there to catch it.
- **Best placement:** a climate-controlled environment (like a garage) is ideal. If that's not possible and your area sees temperatures below 20°F, winterize.

## Why Power Matters

Circulating water is what keeps your BlueCube safe in the cold — and circulation stops the moment power does. **In freezing weather, a power cut can cause plumbing damage in under an hour.** Water standing still in pumps, lines, and the chiller freezes fast, and ice expands with enough force to crack fittings and pump housings.

**TIP** If your area is prone to winter power outages, a backup generator is the single best protection for a unit running through winter. It keeps water moving through an outage that would otherwise turn into freeze damage before you could respond.

If you won't be there to catch an outage when it happens — winterize. Draining the unit removes the risk entirely.

## The Procedure

Work through these steps in order. The goal is simple: **no water left anywhere in the system** — tub, filter housing, plumbing, chiller, and pumps.

### Step 1 — Unplug and drain completely

Unplug the BlueCube and drain the cold plunge completely. Make sure no water is left behind in the tub.

### Step 2 — Remove the filter

Once the tub is fully drained, open the filter housing and remove the filter.

**WARNING** DO NOT LEAVE THE FILTER IN THE UNIT. No filter should ever be left inside a winterized unit — a wet filter left in the housing will freeze and can damage the housing.

### Step 3 — Evacuate the filter housing, tub ports, and bottom drain

Pull all remaining water out of the filter housing, every inlet and outlet in the tub, and the bottom drain.

- **Best method — transfer pump:** connect a small transfer pump through the filter housing and let it pull water out of the plumbing. Because it draws through the lines themselves, a transfer pump evacuates the components more thoroughly than a shop vac.
- **Acceptable method — shop vac:** vacuum the inside of the filter housing for a couple of minutes, then vacuum every tub inlet and outlet and the bottom drain.

### Step 4 — Disconnect and evacuate the chiller

Disconnect the unions going into the chiller, then evacuate both chiller ports — a couple of minutes on the inlet and a couple of minutes on the outlet.

### Step 5 — Evacuate the circulation pumps

The circulation pumps hold water inside the pump body, and **they do not have drain valves** — draining the tub and vacuuming the lines does not empty them. Water trapped in a pump will freeze and crack the housing, so the pumps must be evacuated directly:

1. **Apply suction at the pump's ports** with the pump in place — a couple of minutes per port, the same as the chiller.
2. **Blow out any remaining water with compressed air** until no more water comes out.

**WARNING** Never leave water in a pump through freezing temperatures, and never store or run a pump at or below 32°F with water inside it.

## After Winterizing

- Place the filter housing lid back into position (with the filter still removed).
- Put the insulating cover on the tub. Store the removed filter indoors, clean and dry.
- Leave the unit unplugged until you're ready to bring it back into service.

### Spring restart

1. Reconnect the chiller unions and any plumbing you detached.
2. Reinstall the filter (or install a fresh one — a new season is a good time).
3. Fill the tub to the normal fill level.
4. Prime the system and bleed air at the filter valve before running.
5. Power on and confirm water is circulating normally before setting your temperature.

**TIP** If anything looks or sounds off at restart — weak flow, air that won't bleed, a noisy pump — stop and contact us before continuing to run the unit.

## Warranty

**WARRANTY** Failing to winterize properly voids the warranty for freeze-related damage. Any resulting repairs, shipping of components, or technician labor costs will be the responsibility of the owner.