

SPRINKLER WINTERIZATION (Lake Pumps)

Preparing your lawn sprinkler system for winter requires all the water in the pump, sprinkler piping and heads be evacuated by means of air pressure. At Jetstream, it is our desire for your sprinkler system to operate year after year with little or no problems. The following information will help to prevent problems that can occur in lake pump sprinkler systems.

When winterizing your system, great care is taken to evacuate all the water from your lake pump. When available, the lowest drain plug on your pump will be removed and all water in this unit will be blown out through this orifice. This drain plug is not reinstalled at this time, but taped on or near your pump for installation in the spring. Despite this and other winterizing measures, we have been finding an increasing number of problems with pumps come spring. Some of these problems are:

- Snow build-up and/or consistent moisture on the pump may cause the windings in the motor to rust and “freeze up” come spring.
- Snow build-up and/or consistent moisture on the pump may cause the starter switch to freeze up also.

The easy solution would be to remove your pump each fall, store it inside for the winter and reinstall it in the spring. However, this is often not practical and can be costly and time consuming sometimes requiring nearly an hour to remove (each situation is unique) and perhaps two hours to reinstall. It is not our desire for you to incur this type of added cost each season, nor are we excited about the extra mechanical work with your pump.

What are some remedies? We offer two basic suggestions:

1. Build (or have built) a “dog house” style enclosure for your pump. You can customize this structure to your liking, but make sure it either can be removed or has a removable roof for access and service. The enclosure must also be ventilated on two sides to eliminate overheating during hot summer months.
2. Purchase from us or elsewhere a plastic type enclosure (looks like a boulder)

The goal here is to protect your investment and insure continued operation of your sprinkler system, year after year with minimal service requirements. Call with questions!



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