



PREPARING BATTERIES FOR WINTER

When the RV, boat, or motorcycles move into storage for the winter, there's a few things to consider to ensure the battery is healthy and can start in the spring.

1. Disconnect batteries: Even when the vehicle is off, vehicles and equipment have electronics (clocks, alarms, GPS, ECUs) that draw small amounts of power continuously (known as parasitic draws).
2. Keeping it at 100% state of charge: Don't put away the unit with the battery partially charged. With the battery fully charged, it will prevent sulfating (the process of lead sulfate crystals building up on a battery cell and weakening the battery), freezing and/or damage when not in use.
3. Store in cold but not freezing temperatures: Lower temperatures reduce the rate of chemical reactions, thereby extending the battery's life. Extreme cold (below -20 °C) can crack internal components or cause swelling and leaks.
4. A clean battery is a better battery: Check the terminals and connectors for any corrosion. A tablespoon of baking soda, cup of hot water, toothbrush, and elbow grease should be enough to neutralize any battery acid on the battery.
5. Goodnight battery: Charge the battery overnight for eight-to-12 hours depending on your charger. Most battery chargers will know when the battery is fully charged and will automatically stop charging.
6. Look inside the battery (Flooded Deep Cycle Battery Only): Flooded lead acid deep cycle batteries need a little more maintenance. You'll need to open the caps, check the electrolyte levels and see if the plates are covered. If they're not, top it up with distilled water and charge.

What's recommended:

It's recommended to charge the battery every two to three months and even more in warmer weather. You can also use a battery maintainer to keep your battery charged throughout the off-season—no extra effort required.

Check out Canadian Energy's batteries and accessories for your RV, boat, or summer season vehicles:

<https://www.cdnrg.com/batteries>

Or come into your nearest branch to ask what works best for you and your vehicle:

<https://www.cdnrg.com/locations/branches>

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