

PARTS PIPELINE



◆ WINTERIZATION

◆ Tips & Tricks



Since shipping your bike to a tropical island for the winter probably isn't an option, here are your choices:

- Toss a blue tarp over it in the back yard and hope it survives
- Bring it to Harley-Davidson of WV for our Winter Storage special (see more information later in this newsletter)
- Winterize it yourself

If winterizing it yourself sounds like the option for you, here are some tips to keep your bike comfortable and warm for a happy winter's hibernation.

- First, get the engine warm by riding down to HD of WV for a new oil filter, four quarts of oil and a bottle of fuel stabilizer.
- Add enough stabilizer for the size tank you have and stop by the gas station and fill up with premium gas. This will mix the stabilizer with the gas properly.
- When you get home, change the oil and filter while

the engine is still on the warm side.

- This would be a good time to lube and adjust all the cables as well. See your owner's manual or service manual for the "How To..."
- Start the engine and run it just long enough to confirm that there are no oil leaks. This will also give the stabilized fuel time to run through the system.
- If no leaks are found, shut the fuel off and let the engine quit on it's own. If yours is a fuel-injected model, then just shut it off.
- Inflate the tires to the max pressure listed in your owner's manual or on the side of the tire. This is for storage purposes.
- A good wash and wax job is also preferred prior to long-term storage. This helps prevent rust and/or corrosion.
- If you desire, you can remove the plugs and spray fogging oil into the cylinders (especially if storing outside under the blue tarp).
- Turn the engine over for a second, and then thread the plugs back in the head.
- If you do not have a Global charger or a Battery Tender Jr., it is best to remove the battery from your bike. Your battery may need special charging during the winter depending on the make and type. If you have one of the two mentioned chargers, plug it into the battery and connect to an outlet and forget about it until spring.

- Assuming your bike will be in a weather-proof place like a garage or wood storage building, cover the bike with a breathable cover or a Harley-Davidson storage cover. Do not cover the bike with anything that isn't breathable. However, a piece of blue tarp on the ground under your bike is recommended. This acts like a ground cloth under a tent.
- This is IMPORTANT: Do not start the bike until you are ready to ride again in the spring. If you start it, you are putting moisture into the oil. You cannot get the engine hot enough long enough to evaporate the moisture out of the oil. It will just keep building up each time you start and stop the engine during the winter.
- When spring arrives, uncover, install the battery if you removed it, turn the gas on, start it up and while the engine is warming, adjust the tire pressures to your desired riding pressures.
- **Stop by the Parts department today and pick up a WINTERIZATION KIT, complete with everything you need! (See more details later in this newsletter).**
- **DOES ALL THIS SOUND TOO COMPLICATED? BRING YOUR BIKE TO US OR CALL SERVICE TODAY TO SCHEDULE US TO COME PICK IT UP AND LET US TAKE CARE OF IT!**