

Winterizing an XLR Boost 27QB RV using the air compressor method

by Gary Mace

I created this write up to help me remember the steps to winterize our 2018 XLR Boost 27QB. It seems no manufactures really offer manuals for each unit. Only general how-to videos. Since we live in the south, this air compressor method is all we really need in my opinion. For those living in colder climates, I would suggest pumping anti-freeze through the lines using a winterizing kit on the water pump. Some people pour anti-freeze in their fresh water holding tank and pump from that. I think that is a bad idea since it can be difficult to get it all out in spring. But for this method, no anti-freeze is pumped through lines.

First, a few photos of where you will find the needed components.



This is the location of the fresh water tank drain plug. It is located on the driver side just in front of the axles.

This is the location of the hot and cold water pipes low point drain valves.

These are located above the holding tank drains. It is basically below the bathroom sink.

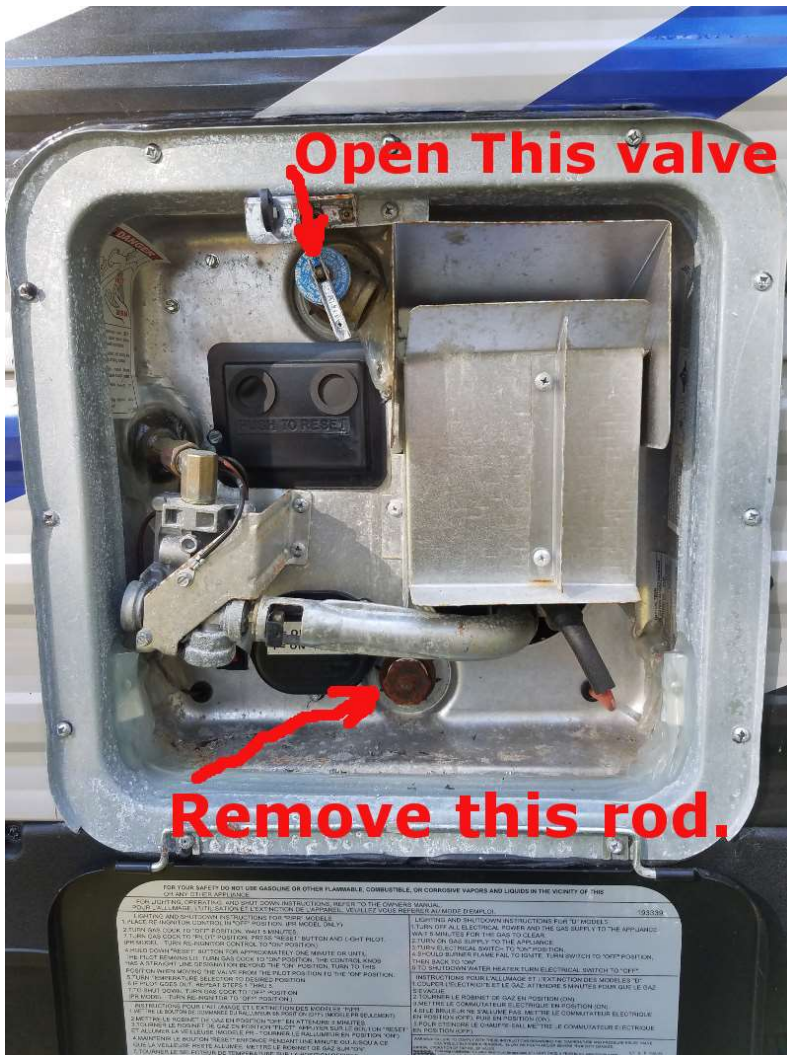


This is the panel in the kitchen that needs to be removed in order to access the hot water tank bypass valve and also the fresh water pump if you were doing the anti-freeze pumping method.

The hot water tank bypass valve will be seen to the left after the marked panel is removed.



Above shows the hot water tank bypass valve in normal and in bypass mode.



This is what you will find behind the hot water tank access panel on the driver side of camper.

To drain, remove the bolt at bottom with a 1 1/16" socket. This is actually an anode rod. It is likely to look pitted which is very normal. If it is extremely pitted, it would be a good time to replace it with a new rod.

After removing the anode rod, open the pressure relief valve at top to allow all water to drain.



You will need an air valve plug similar to this in order to pressurize the water system to blow out the lines. I like this type as it has a Schrader valve and threaded nipple which allows my tire fill tool to attach without me having to stand and hold it on.

You will also need two gallons of RV anti-freeze. I hesitate to mention this as I find it hard to believe anyone could be this stupid.... but... **DO NOT USE ANTI-FREEZE FOR CARS.** This type is toxic and should never be used in a RV water system. Also, do not jump out of airplanes without a parachute...

Finally, the steps I did to winterize our 27QB.

1. Be sure the black and gray holding tanks have been drained. Most folks do this last trip. If not, do so before you start.
2. Remove the panel below kitchen sink to access the hot water tank bypass valve. Set the valve to bypass as shown above.
3. Remove the fresh water tank drain cap and leave off for now. Here is a tip. If you are on the way home from last trip of season, that will be a good time to remove this cap while driving home. This will help ensure all water is sloshed toward the drain.
4. Open access panel to hot water tank on outside of camper on drivers side. Remove the anode rod and open pressure relieve valve to drain tank as shown above.
5. Open the hot and cold water low point drain valves. I also opened the kitchen hot and cold water faucets to aid in gravity drain. Let this drain for a few minutes.
6. Close the low point hot and cold water drains.

7. Insert the air pressure valve into the black water flush hook-up and use compressed air to ensure that is clear of water.
8. Move the air pressure valve to the City Water connection. Hook your air compressor to this and begin pressurizing system with air. **IMPORTANT!!!** Be sure you use an air pressure regulator to limit the pressure to about 30 psi, I've read some folks using higher pressure, but this is what I feel safe with and find is enough pressure.
9. Now with compressor running... go into RV and one at a time open the cold then the hot water faucets on kitchen sink, bathroom sink, shower, toilet pedal and don't forget the outside shower. Keep each open long enough that you are certain all water has been blown out of lines and faucets.
10. With compressor still running and all faucets closed, again re-open the low point hot and cold water drain valves. Leave them open until you feel nothing but air, then shut them off. You can now shut off and disconnect the air compressor.
11. Take one gallon of RV anti-freeze. Pour about a quart in kitchen sink, a quart in shower drain, and then pour the rest of the jug into the bathroom sink drain. This will ensure some antifreeze makes it into the gray water tank.
12. Take another gallon and pour most into the open toilet so it goes into black water holding tank. Close toilet valve and pour about the last pint into the toilet to keep the seals wet and free from freeze risk.
13. Close the outside hot water tank pressure relief valve and re-install the anode.
14. Replace drain cap on the fresh water holding tank.
15. Don't forget to check your pantry, medicine cabinet, and storage bins for any liquid items that could freeze and burst.

That's it. See ya next spring!