

MAINTENANCE AND WINTERISING OF DOCKS

Maintenance : Besides periodical inspections of structure parts, an aluminium dock doesn't need any special maintenance. A water sealer with a U.V. inhibitor can be applied on the decking boards to prevent the wood from drying, cracking and making splinters. We do not recommend painting the docks; paint can peel and then create problems.

Winter storage : Remove ladders or any large accessories fixed to the dock.

Disconnect the bracket system attached to the shore or to the wall (if it applies). Unhook anchoring chains, attach them together and then to a yellow rope that floats (regular yellow cords are usually floating ones), leave at least 3 ft. longer than water depth. As it is going to float, they will be easily reachable the year after.

Protect the docks from each other and from the shore (or the retaining wall) with some bumpers (car tires do a great job).

Unhook docks from each other and group them on shore line or beside the wall to minimise the effect of the ice on docks. Be sure that the floats are not rubbing on rocks or anything that could pierce them.

To help you remove docks from water, you can place 2" x 8" planks on the ground in order to create a ramp on which you will slide the docks. The "green slime" formed on the floats will help the sliding when taking the dock in and out of the water. You may also use a winch to facilitate your work. Manipulate with care.