



Installation of winter pool covers for Aqua-Bois pools

The pros and cons

Advantages:

- Keeps dead leaves and other debris from settling in the bottom of the pool.
- Protects the liner of the pool from ultraviolet rays which may discolour and yellow it.
- Protects the liner of the pool from tears that may be caused by ice.

Disadvantages:

- Excessive weight from snow accumulating on the pool cover may cause damages. Unlike above-ground pools (see note 1), Aqua-Bois' pool walls are made to withstand this weight. However, an excessive load of snow may damage the top rails. When the steel cable which holds the winter pool cover is fastened under the top rails, the upward pressure of the cable on the outside of the top rails combined with the downward pressure of the cover on the outside of the rails may damage them.

Recommendations:

Should you decide to install a winter pool cover, you have the choice of removing it after the leaves have fallen or of keeping it in place all winter.

- Either way, we recommend the use of a net style cover, which will allow the water to flow while collecting dead leaves and other debris. Furthermore, it will be much easier to remove in the spring.
- Should you choose to leave the cover on all winter, opt for an installation which does not consist in the cover being fastened under the top rails or, at the very least, find a solution which will relieve the pressure on and under the top rails: balls or elastics under the cover, stakes in the ground, etc.

Note 1: A high number of steel construction above-ground pools collapsed due to heavy snowfalls during the winter of 2007-2008. *No collapses of Aqua-Bois pools were reported.*