



Winter Storage – Preparing your motorcycle for a winter’s nap

Those who continue to ride through the winter will still benefit from some of these tips to keep your ride in top shape. While some reading this are already in the grips of winter, it is never too late to prepare your Harley (or other equipment) for that long winter’s nap. Below is a check list for basic winter storage that will help make sure your ride survives until spring.

1. Stabilize the fuel. Modern unleaded fuel only has a shelf life of 3-4 weeks before it begins to deteriorate. Some believe that draining the tank and float bowl is all that is needed to prevent the gasoline from turning to sludge. In my opinion there is no way to completely drain every drop of fuel, especially from all the small passages and jets in the carburetor. Add the recommended amount of fuel stabilizer to a full tank of fuel, then run the engine for at least 15 minutes to work the stabilized fuel throughout the engine. This will prevent the remaining fuel residue from oxidizing and turning to varnish. There are several brands of fuel stabilizer, be sure to purchase a reliable brand.
2. Change your oil. Now that your Harley is warmed up after running the stabilizer through the engine, change your oil. Residual fuel and contaminants in the oil can oxidize during prolonged storage or inactivity. Changing your oil now removes all the sludge and dirt that would otherwise start to deteriorate. In addition, changing oil now guarantees fresh lubrication when it comes time to remove the bike from storage. Don’t go cheap on the oil like some sites encourage. Use a quality oil that you would normally drive with. I recommend synthetics which will survive much longer into next year’s riding season, but the choice is up to you. Run the engine a few minutes to disburse the oil through the engine.
3. Prepare the Battery Lead-acid batteries should be kept under a constant charge in order to prolong their life. Attach a Battery Tender or specialized charger that won’t overcharge your battery. A trickle charger may be used but must not be run for more than a half-hour each day. This could be accomplished using an appliance timer. If your motorcycle will be stored where freezing temperatures are likely, remove the battery from the bike and place in a warm dry place. The battery should be kept charged regardless.
Battery storage myth: Placing a battery on a concrete floor will not discharge or drain the battery. Lead acid batteries by nature slowly discharge however, a concrete floor has no effect on this.

4. Clean and Lubricate Dirt, sand, and road salts will begin to corrode and damage metal surfaces if left during storage. Give your bike a good cleaning before putting her to sleep for the winter. Lubricate all moving parts such as cables and use a metal protectant spray on the underside of the frame and drivetrain. This will combat any rust on areas exposed from pitting or scratches.

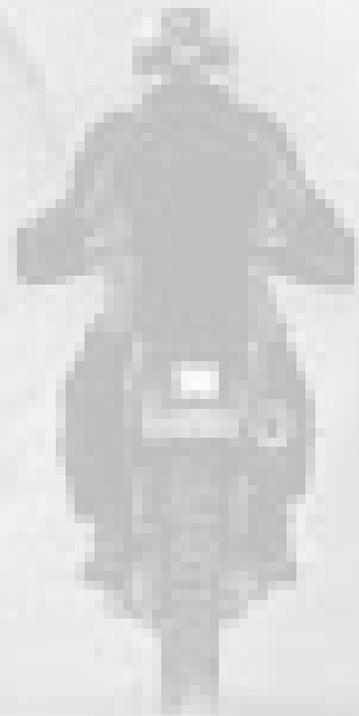
5. Check your Tires Make sure your tires are properly inflated. If you have a compressor then deflate your tires first to expel any moisture, then inflate with clean compressed air. You should repeat this step before riding again in the spring.

If possible, elevate your Harley so both tires are not under load. This is especially important if the bike will be stored in freezing conditions. Make sure your bike is secure. Motorcycle lifts with bottle jacks have been known to fail when left under prolonged load.

6. Cover your Harley Even when stored inside, your bike should be covered while stored. Use a cover that can breath and not a plastic tarp. Moisture should not be allowed to become trapped under the cover on your bike's metal surfaces. If your storage is in a barn or similar place, cover the exhaust to prevent any unwanted creatures from making a winter den. Place plastic bags over the intake to keep moisture out.

That's basically all there is to storing your bike. There are a hundred more suggestions out there (filling the tires with nitrogen, etc.), but for the most part these steps will ensure your investment gets a safe winter's rest. Once stored, resist the temptation of periodically starting the engine, or at least until you are ready to drain the stabilized fuel and start riding again. While your beauty is sleeping it is the perfect time to work on those maintenance projects you have been putting off, like changing the fork oil.

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From the Director



[Trey Hargus](#)

Hello and HO! HO! HO! To Everyone.

It has been a wonderful year, and I am sure many are Uber Excited about the new chrome under the tree or in the stocking. There is plenty to choose from if you have not added the hints to your loved ones and friends. Pig Trail HD can start tracking your wish list – They can add your needs to the Nice list or Naughty with the staff at parts/accessories. All of elves at the workshop are ready to help.. Most would say chrome is Nice, but many would say that new exhaust or motor upgrade is Naughty. As this year comes to a close, I wanted to THANK all of the Leadership for the sharing of their GIFTS with me and the HOG group. We ALL have special talents – gifts and ideas. Chuck is super organized, Janet is energetic, Lisa is ready to party, Scott has a talent for finding a good time, Annette is cheerful and has a winning smile, Deb has dogged determination, Kareen is a steady rudder-reliable, Matt is creative and outgoing, Royce has a hidden talent that he will reveal later and Warren has his hugs. Our HOG chapter is looking for gift givers. We have some officer positions that are opening up. We are in need of some year long Giving Spirit. So take an appraisal of your talent, interest and are you willing to bring that Gift to us. Keep in mind that this is not a White Elephant Exchange and you don't give the gift you no longer desire.

From the Asst Director



[Royce Barnes](#)

Well this year is winding down and with It comes the holidays where family and friends get together in traditional ways. It's the time of year when all the misunderstandings and miscommunications of the past year should be put aside and the spirit of love and closeness takes the forefront. As with any family, we in the HOG chapter have had our disagreements and moments of strife. And just like any other family we should put all that aside and concentrate on the closeness and friendship and love we have for each other. For in the final analysis, that is really what is most important.

Happy Holidays and Ride Safe



Ladies of Harley

Why be apart of LOH?

LOH (Ladies of Harley) is a great opportunity to connect and grow friendships while enjoying fun activities. You don't need to ride your own bike, as several of our get togethers don't involve riding, but when we do ride just saddle up with your partner! Just because the name says "Ladies" we are always happy to see the guy's come join us.

Membership

It's that time of year again - We have had a great year of riding and having fun and now is the time to renew your local Chapter membership to continue that fun for the next year.



[Janet Stewart](#)

What you get for the low, low cost of a local HOG membership – Riding and Having FUN. Monthly social gatherings that include spending time with your HOG family, information about upcoming activities and rides, dealership updates, membership door prizes, dealership game (with prize), and progressive jackpot.

These are just a few of the things the Pig Trail HOG Chapter has done

Planned Rides throughout the year – including Saturday, Sunday and Weekday dinner rides. These rides are to places or roads you may have never experienced before, some are themed rides such as the bug run and Full Moon ride Ladies of Harley (LOH) gatherings and fun times such as the LOH Pool Party, Mystery Dinner, Gypsy Paint Party and LOH dinner rides, just to name a few.

Weeklong memorable trips to such places as the Smoky Mountains and Milwaukee HOG Rally

Weekend trips such as the EPIC Fall Foliage trip, Mudbug Madness Run to Shreveport, LA and Hot Springs Rally. There are even non-riding activities such as the Annual Holiday Party, Superbowl Parties, PTHD Swap Meets, BBB Water Sales and bowling with the dealership.

Now the business part:

There are 2 membership groups that are required to be a part of the chapter – National and Local

National Harley-Davidson Membership (HOG) Types

Full Membership is for the owners of a Harley-Davidson motorcycle and is \$49.00 per year

Associate Membership is designed for the passenger or family member of an active full membership. The fee is \$29.00 per year.

Life and Associate Life Membership are for those ready to seriously commit. Prices vary and you would need to contact HOG directly at 1-800-CLUBHOG (1-800-258-2464).

Important details - Each National membership is for an individual only – there are no family memberships. This means that each and every person that is a part of the National Harley Owners Group (HOG) have their own unique membership card with their own membership ID number . If you purchased a motorcycle from Pig Trail Harley Davidson, they provided a one year national membership for one owner of that purchase. The national membership is renewable every year from the initial sign-up date forward.

Pig Trail Harley Owner Group (HOG) - Local Chapter

To be a part of one of the best local chapters, it is **required** that you are a national HOG member in active status (see information above). Local chapter membership fee is \$20.00 per year, per person and is renewable January of each year. Membership forms and payment can be done at the PTHD Cash wrap (registers) or at the monthly HOG Social Gathering.

So, what are you waiting for? It's time to renew, or become a member of, the Pig Trail HOG Chapter. Please welcome the newest members to our Pig Trail HOG Chapter family

Martin & Laurie Lammey
Steve & Teresa Parker
Harold Jobe
Russ & Tamra Lamer
Wyatt Brewer
John Belew
Travis & Toni Cave
Tim Snyder
Brett Egg
Joshua Farrar
James Gove
Alex Kars



[Lisa Vail](#)

Activities

Happy Holidays HOG Members! My how November flew by. Although we just slipped into December, planning for the months events has been underway for quite some time.

We're starting the month off with a FREE pancake breakfast/2019 Membership drive!

Doors open at 9a in the service department. Following breakfast, our HOG Gathering will catch you up on important dates for December. One of the highlights of the year is our annual HOG Christmas party on December 8th at the Embassy. Doors open at 5:30 for drinks, dinner at 6:30 with music, fun and dancing till midnight! If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, feel free to bring a gift valued at no more than \$20. We'll also be giving away about \$1000 in door prizes!

Chapter Breakfast—Saturday December 1st 9:00am

Come join your fellow members for a Membership and PTHD Staff appreciation breakfast served by your directors.

We will gather in the Service bay of PTHD at 9:00 and enjoy a pancake breakfast with a very special giveaway. We have a room at the Embassy Suites that we will be raffling off to those who are signed up for the holiday party and are in attendance. Imagine enjoying as much cheer as you desire at the party of the year and then casually sauntering off to your own private retreat for the evening.

You have to be here to win!

In addition our progressive jackpot is close to \$100 which would make a nice stocking stuffer for anyone.

Benton County Christmas Toy Run

Join us on Saturday, December 8th for our 13th annual Bikes, Trikes & Toys for Tots Christmas Toy Run benefiting boys and girls in Benton County. Cost to ride is a \$5 donation benefiting the NWA Children's Shelter and a new, unwrapped toy for a boy or girl. We are collecting toys through 12/15 for kids aged infant to 16 years!

Lunch will be provided for the kids and all riders! We look forward to this event every year and we really appreciate the caring and generosity displayed by our customers!

The ride will stage at Bass Pro in Rogers at 10:30am. The ride will head out for Pig Trail H-D at 11:30am.



Annual Holiday Party

December 8th 2018

This is the gathering of the year! Come join your fellow members at our yearly bash, featuring fun, games, door prizes and dancing at the Embassy Suites in Rogers.

Doors open at 5:30pm with a buffet dinner to follow at 6:30pm.



Ladies of Harley Yearly planning session

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9th TIME: 2:00PM

WHERE: 6 Rothes Lane, Bella Vista 72715

Do you have something that you would love to see as an event for our LOH in 2019?

Please bring YOUR IDEAS and gather at Deb Raymond's beautiful home in Bella Vista to discuss how we will plan out our 2019 activities. There will be a chance for everyone who would like to participate to sign up in hosting a monthly event.

Goodies and beverages provided!

Carroll County Toys for Tots December 15th Noon

Christmas toy run benefiting kids in Carroll County. This year we will ride from Rockin' Pig Saloon to Grandma's House facility in Berryville! More ride details will be available soon. We are currently accepting toy donations for kids aged infant to 16 years.

LOH Gift wrapping December 15th and 22nd

Hey ladies let's get together and do some gift wrapping at Pig Trail, dates are December 15 and December 22: we have a sign up sheet already started. Time will be 10:00 to 4:00. Can work as much as you want or just a couple of hours. Customers would love for us to wrap the gifts they buy at Pig Trail.

Polar Bear Ride—January 5th TBA

Come, Welcome in the new year of riding with a brisk ride! Stay tuned for more details!

GPS Mapping for Harley-Davidson Infotainment Systems

Training for Pig Trail HOG Members

Saturday, January 12, 2019

2:00 PM

Location TBD

The purpose of this training is to learn how to use the Harley Ride Planner program. The program is available for free and allows users to custom design routes, download them as .gpx files, and upload them into the Infotainment (Navigation) System. Maps (up to 50) generated on this system are stored on the Harley "cloud." A user has the ability to access, modify, and use their maps from any computer, smart phone, or tablet that has Internet access.

Prior to the training session please be sure your laptop computer can access the Ride Planner Program:

(Cont'd)

Go to harley-davidson.com
Click Owners
Under the heading “Plan Your Ride” click Ride Planner
Click Sign In
Enter your email address and password OR create a new account
This will be the page where the training session will start
At this point you can click your name and log out

Also – you might want to download the HD Ride Planner app on your smartphone and/or tablet. This app allows you to access and utilize your stored maps from your cell phone or tablet. VERY COOL.

Bring the following to the training session:
A laptop computer with WiFi capabilities
A USB (corded) two-button Mouse with a “zoom” wheel
A “clean/empty” USB thumb drive
Your Ride Planner log-in information
A notebook to jot down stuff

See handout at www.pigtrailhog.com/docs/GPSMappingforHarley.pdf

There is much potential for a post-session debrief at a nearby “watering hole.”

Road Captains



[Chuck Yarbrough](#)

If you raise your hand put your heart into it.

HOG is an all-volunteer organization but you have to maintain your national and local membership to serve. As I close out a two year term as a Co-Head Road Captain, I would like to say great Job to several Road Captains that stepped up and fulfilled their obligation of supporting the Chapter in attending Group Riding training and First Aid Training, plus lead at least two chapter rides. I will apologize to those that signed up and were unable to complete the requirements to receive their Patch and Recognition.



[Scott Mendham](#)
