

# Plan Ahead: Protect Hardscape Sealers & Cleaners from Freezing



In areas of the U.S. where temperatures dip below freezing in the winter months, it's time to start thinking about protecting your cleaner and sealer investment from damage.

## Why is it so important to protect cleaners & sealers from freezing?

Water based sealers/cleaners and some solvent based products will freeze when exposed to freezing temperatures (32° and lower). To prevent product damage, store your inventory in a place where the temperature stays above 40 degrees.

While relocating your inventory to a safe location, it's a great time to dispose of old product that is beyond its shelf life. Check the label or with SEK-Surebond for approved disposal methods if your product has exceeded its published shelf life. Rotate your remaining stock so that the older but unexpired inventory is sold first when the season opens again. If the appearance of the product packaging is important to your business, take the time now to clean the outside of the bottles and pails before covering them so they will be ready to go when spring hits.

Please remember that if a sealer or cleaner product freezes just once, it may no longer be usable. So, protect your inventory investment even if your area experiences freezing temperatures for relatively short periods of time.

## How do you know if your sealer or cleaner has frozen before?

Typically with water based sealers, the resins in the system will fall out of suspension and settle at the bottom of the container. Additionally, you may notice the sealer or cleaner may no longer 'look right' by being watery or having an oily residue or a foul smell. Do not sell or use the sealer or cleaner if it has any of the above characteristics. Dispose of properly.

As the days get shorter and temperatures get cooler, now is a great time to protect your hardscape sealer and cleaner inventory so it will be ready when the spring season hits next year.

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