

# North Georgia Crappie Anglers

## Mercury Outboard Motor Storage Instructions

From Mike McConnell

The following is a set of instructions on preparing Mercury outboard motors for storage.

### Mercury Outboard Instructions:

**Warning:** As a safety precaution, when boat is in storage, or in transit, remove positive (+) battery cable. This eliminates possibility of accidental starting or cranking of engine and overheating and damage to engine from lack of water or starter motor damage.

**Caution:** With an oil-injected engine, if after being in storage, air bubbles can be seen in the clear oil pump hose, see your authorized dealer. Operate the outboard on pre-mixed fuel (50:1) until the air is purged from the hose. Protect engine from physical damage, rust, corrosion and dirt. Do not seal in a container or wrap tightly in plastic or canvas, as moisture could form and cause external and internal rust and corrosion. Refer to lubrication chart in Operation and Maintenance Manual.

- > Lubricate swivel bracket, tilt tube & control linkage.
- > Remove spark plugs.
- > Apply Mercury/Quicksilver Storage Seal into carburetors and spark plug holes.

- > Connect spark plug wires. Be sure that each wire is connected to the correct spark plug.
- > Clean exterior of motor, including all accessible powerhead parts. Spray with Mercury/Quicksilver Corrosion Guard.
- > Install cowling. Apply Mercury/Quicksilver Corrosion Guard to all painted surfaces.
- > Remove propeller. Lubricate propeller shaft spline and reinstall propeller.
- > When storing for winter, make sure water drain holes in gear housing are open so water will drain out. Use a piece of wire to clean out.
- > If a speedometer is installed in the boat, disconnect the pick up tube and allow it to drain. Reconnect the tube. Trapped water will freeze, cracking gear housing and/or water pump housing.
- > Drain and refill gear housing with Mercury Gear Lube before storage. Inspect gaskets under lubricant vent and fill plugs. Replace damaged gaskets before reinstalling.

**Note:** If water is discharged or fluid is of a milky consistency, there is a water leak into the gear housing. Have your local authorized dealer service unit before storage. Failure to do so may cause damage to gears, bearings and shafts.