



## WING AWNINGS: WIND, RAIN AND SNOW

The XD Hitch mounting system is designed with a high load capacity relative to the weight of even the heaviest awnings. However, in the deployed state, loads from high winds, pooled rainwater, and accumulated snow can exceed the XD Hitch load capacity.

Always follow the awning manufacturer's recommendation with respect to awning use under conditions of wind, rain and snow. In addition, it is recommended that in windy conditions poles and guy ropes are always installed, and that during rain and snow events, that steps are taken to prevent excessive loading on the awning. For example, do not leave un-guyed awnings unattended if weather conditions may deteriorate.

Due to the high number of variables associated with wind direction, awning size and arrangement, local terrain, and other factors, it is not possible to provide meaningful wind speed recommendations.

### THE 3 ENEMIES OF "FREESTANDING" WING AWNINGS ARE: WIND, RAIN AND SNOW.



**WIND:** The wind loads on the awning mounting system relate to wind direction, wind strength, local terrain and awning area. In gusty conditions in particular, the loads on the awning are unpredictable, and may vary from upwards to downwards in a short space of time. It is recommended that in all but calm conditions, regardless of the awning manufacturer's instructions, that awnings should be restrained with poles and guy ropes to prevent damage to the mounting system.



**RAIN:** Most wing awnings come with a means to deflect runoff water from rain to avoid stretching the awning material (and causing other damage) when water collects in pools. Typically, this is accomplished with guy ropes set midway between the rafters and with poles at the rafters. To prevent potential overloading of the mounting system during heavy rain, drainage measures are recommended.



**SNOW:** The awning mounting system may be overloaded under snow loads. In snow conditions where heavy snow loads may develop, snow needs to be periodically cleared or the awning needs to be stowed.

**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO ANY OF THESE RECOMMENDATIONS MAY VOID THE RACKSBRAX WARRANTY.**