

The Awning That Tore Itself Off

Awning tore off mid-extension. Sixty mile-an-hour gust nobody saw coming. Submission this week from a viewer in Wyoming.

Three years old. Manufacturer-installed. Looked fine. Until it didn't. Wind sensor failed to auto-retract. By the time he got the manual override, the awning was a kite.

Wind sensors fail. Auto-retract fails. The fail-safe is — you. Don't trust the technology. If wind picks up, retract manually. Don't wait for the sensor.

Inspection — pull the awning out fully every spring. Look at the arms. Look at the fabric. Look at the spring tension. Cracks or fatigue, replace before the trip.

THE BOTTOM LINE

Submit your awning story at crappyrv.com slash allies. We'll feature the worst — and they're always entertaining.