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# Safety Tip

The average driver has no clue as to how much force the wind can create. They'll watch the News on TV and see a 65 MPH Gale blowing down trees on the Florida coast, and then they'll put chairs, garbage cans, and an aluminum ladder in the back of a pickup truck and drive down the highway at 65 MPH and expect the stuff to stay there !

The most common things to find lying in the road are bungee cords (the hooks on those are good for a flat tire). The second most common thing to find in the roadway are the things the bungee cords used to be holding down.....and there is a GIANT list of stuff waiting to snare you.... Aluminum ladders and pieces of plywood, mattresses and living room chairs, tires, parts of tires ( road gators), and hub caps... Lawn chairs, charcoal barbeques, and coolers, AND the liners from inside the back of pickup trucks. Whew ! It can be like running an obstacle course ! Constant Surface Appraisal is a necessity, and a good healthy following distance can give you time to see and evade things on the road that will hurt you, including the time to see big potholes as they emerge into view from under the car that you are following. It would be nice to expect a clear road out in front of us....but it just isn't going to happen. So we'll need to make our tie-downs secure, and stay alert and be ready for anything that's out there on the road that shouldn't be. Be Aware, Get your knees in the breeze, and ....Ride Safe !

**Daddy-O**