

## Secure Those Loads!

Markel has had a number of vehicular claims involving boxes, trash cans, and other items falling out of the beds of pickup trucks. We've also had claims for towed trailers coming loose and canoes coming off trailers into the road. Nearly all of these have resulted in injuries to other drivers and significant property damage.

Bungee cords are not an appropriate method of securing canoes to trailers or other items in the back of pickup trucks because the bungee stretches under high wind conditions. Use straps or rope to secure loads, or cover the items with a net secured to the truck bed. Staff may also need training in how to secure a trailer and how to balance the trailer load.

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If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at [safety1st@markelcorp.com](mailto:safety1st@markelcorp.com).