



# Airstream Tech Help Group

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This group, part of the WBCCI Technical Standing Committee, has been established to help the membership with any of their technical RV problems. Examples of questions that might be of interest to many members will be published in the *Blue Beret*. We will respond directly to you, in response to your email or letter describing a problem you are having. We hope you will find this new service of value in the care and feeding of your RV. You may contact us as follows: techhelp@wbcci.org or by mail: Howard Lefkowitz, 11508 Colt Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20902

## Air Conditioner Water Leak

**PROBLEM:** We are at Traveler's Rest and AC has started dripping inside. We have a 2009 Flying Cloud. Have removed 6 screws but the inside plastic cover still seems attached. Thinking I need to blow out the drain. Any idea how I can get the cover off?

**ANSWER:** Assuming you are running the AC in hot weather, if so then:

You do not remove the cover inside. The leak can only be stopped from the top or bottom of the trailer. You may have to remove the shroud on top. But first; does your condensate drain come from a plastic tube at the bottom of the trailer? Either the AC condensate drains through this tube (usually adjacent to the AC at the bottom) or it just goes over the side and comes down the trailer side. The tubing type drain is inside the trailer wall.

If your unit uses the tubing, it is clogged with dirt at the top. This is an easy one, just borrow an air compressor and blow out the tubing from the bottom. You need about 30 or 40 psi. This will dislodge the dirt and allow the water out.

If you have an over-the-side drain, then you have to get on the roof and clean out the little metal discharge tube on the pan in which the AC is mounted. It is about 1/4 inch in diameter and it is clogged with dirt. The water level gets too high in the pan and it comes over the inside lip of the pan and directly into the trailer. You can blow this out with compressed air or just carefully poke a wire coat hanger through the tube.

**Assuming you are not running the AC, but it is raining then:**

Your problem is a cracked shroud, which is covering the AC unit. These are held on with two screws and cost about \$80. Put some of the famous "Duct Tape" over the cracks until you can get a new cover. For several years, Dometic had problems with these covers developing cracks. On occasion, they hit tree limbs and fracture. You never notice anything until it rains and the living room carpet develops mysterious wet spots.

Good Luck, Howard

## TV Antenna

**PROBLEM:** Do you have any suggestions for specific types of antennas or brands? I think I would like stationery rather than crank since I have a '64 Globetrotter. Some have boosters built in and others do not. Is there a tried and true?

**ANSWER:** The best antennas are made by Winegard. You absolutely need a built-in amplifier for any kind of performance. It should be in the antenna and will require a 12-volt source. The crank ups will always provide better performance since you can point the antenna to pick up the strongest signal. Here is a non-crank up unit:

<http://www.campingworld.com/shopping/item/winegard-roadstar-omni-hdtv-antenna-black/61463>

It is currently on sale at Camping World for \$90. The original TV antenna for your Globetrotter was a crank up with 10 or so rods which had to be lubricated each year to allow it to be opened up.

Howard