



# THUNDER STRAP INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

INSTALLATION OF THE THUNDER STRAP  
TARP KEEPER SYSTEM

## INSTALLING THE THUNDER STRAP SYSTEM

The Thunder Strap tarp keeper system will fit any length of trailer but is designed for 96" wide and 102" wide trailers with standard width tarps. The Thunder Strap tarp keeper system will work with either manual or with electric tarp systems. The system will not accommodate trailers with extra width tarps installed.

### Step 1:

Determine the locations for the Thunder straps. Measure the length of the trailer and divide the length by four. (40'-0" / 4 = 10'-0")

If installing two straps place a mark on the curb (passenger) side of the trailer near the top rail 1/4 of the length and again at 3/4 of the length. If installing three straps add a mark at 1/2 of the length. For example a 40'-0" trailer divided by four = 10'-0" so put marks at 10'-0" and 30'-0" for two straps and 10'-0", 20'-0", and 30'-0" for three straps. If installing on a trailer with an EPA (load hole) tarp installed install the straps where they will not interfere with the opening and closing of the load hole flaps on the tarp.

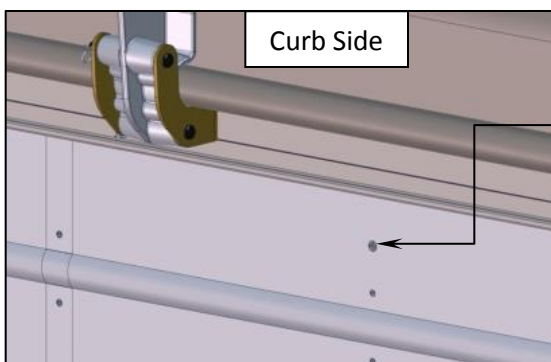
### Step 2:

Roll the tarp open until it is hanging freely against the wall protectors on the road (drivers) side of the trailer. Place marks opposite the marks on the curb side of the trailer below the tarp when it is hanging at its lowest point.

### Note:

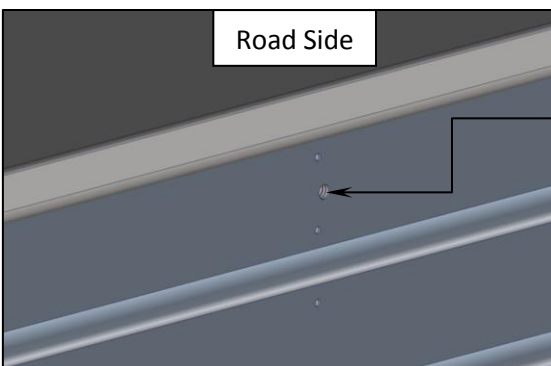
If there is accessibility to the interior wall of the trailer and you can use the nut and washer to attach the bolt, drill 13/32" holes.

If there is no access to the interior use the 3/8" self-threading bolts alone. The bolts require a minimum wall thickness of 3/16" so drill 5/16" holes where there is a post.



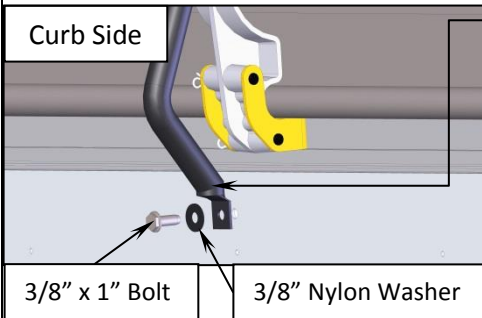
### Step 3:

Find the nearest row of rivets to the marks that you have made on the trailer. On the curb side (passenger) of the trailer drill a hole between two of the rivets just below the top frame rail. This is usually just above the first corrugation, or 2" ± 1".



### Step 4:

With the tarp hanging at its lowest point on the road side of the trailer, drill a hole between two of the rivets just below the tarp. This is approximately between the fourth and fifth corrugation or 18" ± 1".

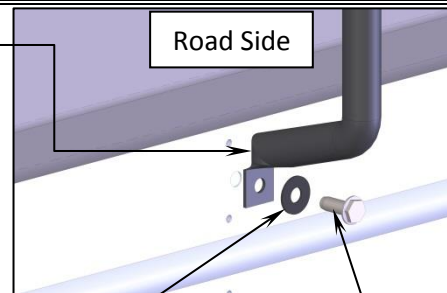


Curb Side

3/8" x 1" Bolt

3/8" Nylon Washer

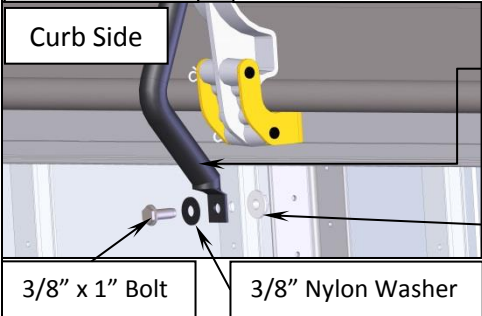
**Step 5:**  
 Drape the Thunder Strap tarp keeper strap over the closed tarp. Install the fasteners on the curb (passenger) side of the trailer to hold the straps in place. If the interior is not accessible use the bolt and nylon washer as shown to attach the strap.



Road Side

3/8" Nylon Washer

3/8" x 1" Bolt



Curb Side

3/8" x 1" Bolt

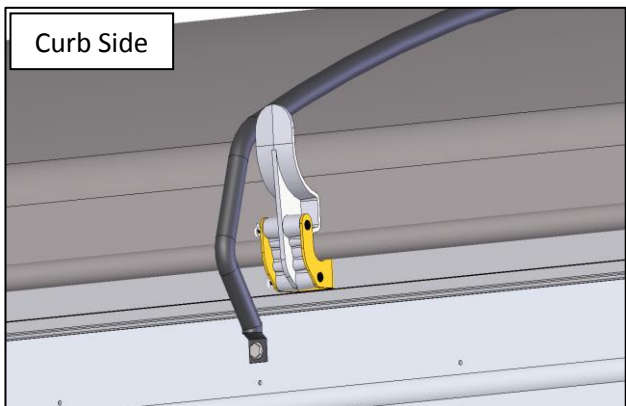
3/8" Nylon Washer

If the interior is accessible use the bolt, nylon washer, and nut as shown to attach the strap.

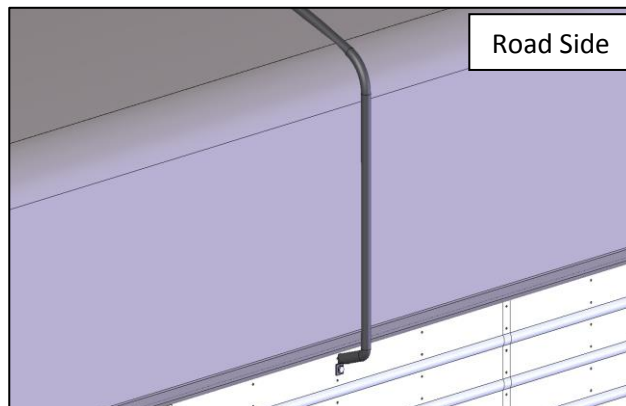
3/8" Flange Lock Nut

**Step 6:**  
 Repeat step 5 for the road (drivers) side of the trailer.

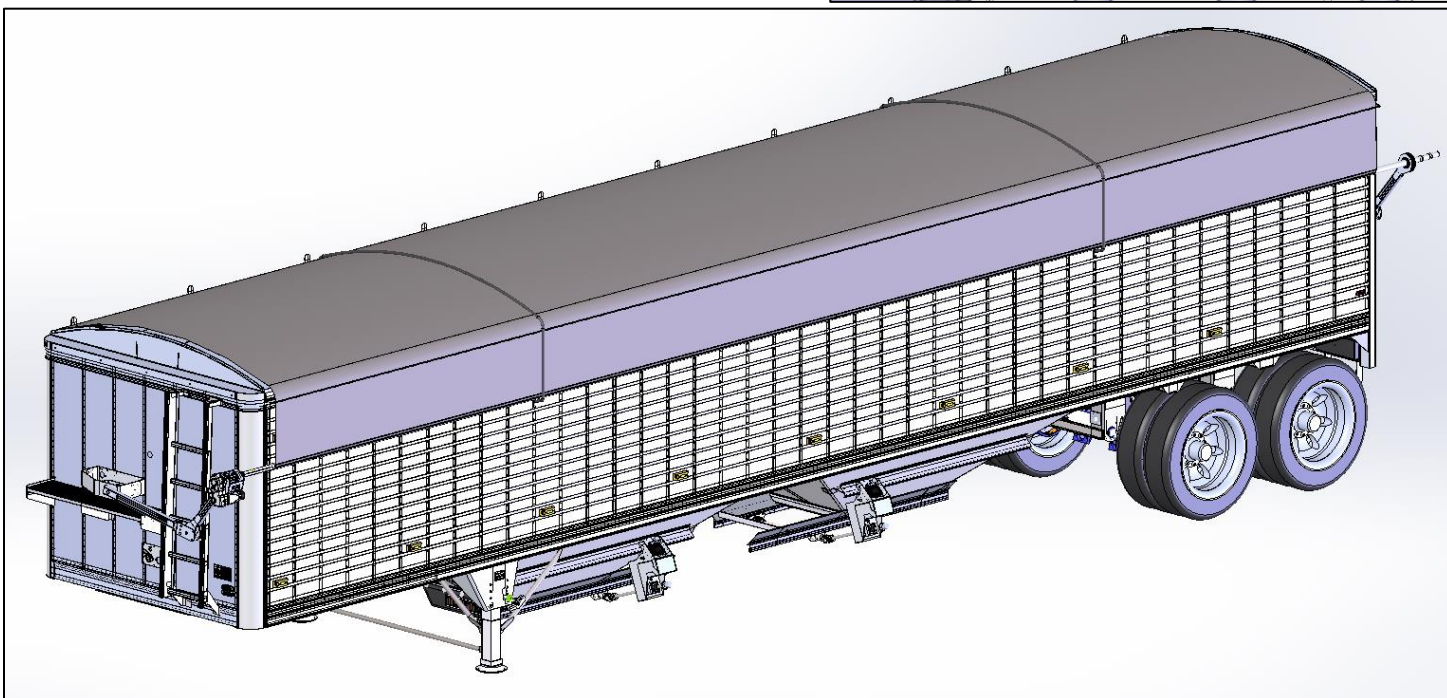
The finalized assembly should look like the pictures below.



Curb Side



Road Side



### Tools Required

- 1/2" Wrenches or Ratchets
- Tape Measure
- Drill
- 13/32" Drill Bit
- 5/16" Drill Bit

### Kit Contents

- 2 qty. 3/8" x 1" Hex Head Bolts
- 2 qty. 3/8" Flange Locking Nuts
- 2 qty. 3/8" Nylon Washers
- 1 qty. Thunder Strap Tarp Keeper System