

ENTERTAINING IDEAS

Keep Mother Nature From Crashing Your Party: Host Outdoor Events Under A Retractable Awning

(NAPSA)—As soon as dark days of winter fade, everyone dreams of spending time outside. The warm weather brings a host of party opportunities: pre-parties for teens before proms, family reunions, Little League celebrations. But unpredictable weather can dampen these plans—literally. Hosting garden parties under a retractable awning is the solution—letting you soak up the sun, while keeping you protected from the elements.

When planning warm weather fetes, refer to the checklist below to keep the rain away from your parade:

- **No rain, no pain:** Rain can ruin backyard get-togethers, but a retractable awning can keep guests dry and comfortable. When purchasing an awning, be sure the fabric is not just water-repellent, but is also waterproof.

- **Made in the shade:** In the afternoon, finding a comfortable, shady spot to sit can be a challenge. If your patio or deck heats up during the sun's peak hours (10am to 4pm), a retractable awning can keep those areas up to 30-degrees cooler.

- **Don't get burned:** Sunburns are a major party foul—not only are they uncomfortable, they're also unhealthy. An awning provides excellent sun protection. SunSetter® retractable awnings, for example, are made with a fabric that has an SPF of over 50, protecting you and your guests from the sun's harmful UV rays.

- **A throne of one's own:** Just because your party takes place outside doesn't mean guests expect to rough it. Comfortable seating is a must, whether it's tra-



ditional outdoor furniture or simple folding chairs. Avoid lugging furniture in and out of the house by investing in waterproof furniture or a waterproof awning, which helps protect your deck and furniture from the elements.

- **Bug off:** Don't let uninvited guests crash the party. Protect your guests from bugs with a screened-in seating area. Creating a screen room under an awning is simple and affordable; just add screen panels. (You can find them, along with other accessories, at www.sunsetter.com.)

- **Set the mood:** Just because you're outside, doesn't mean you should sacrifice ambiance. Dress up your patio with a colorful awning. Awnings are available in various striped and solid colors. You can also add decorative lighting. Log onto www.sunsetter.com for affordable strings of lights that attach easily to an awning.

Installing an awning on your deck or patio will help you be the consummate host this season. For more information on SunSetter Awnings, visit www.sunsetter.com or call 1-800-876-8060, ext. 6988.