



Press Release

For Immediate Release

SUNBEAM ANNOUNCES VOLUNTARY RECALL OF MODEL "602" ELECTRIC BLANKETS

WAYNESBORO, MS, **June 19, 1998** - Sunbeam Products, Inc. of Waynesboro, Mississippi is voluntarily recalling all production (53,000 blankets) of an electric blanket with a new type of safety circuit, designated as Model "602". The safety circuit in these blankets could malfunction, potentially resulting in a fire.

Sunbeam has discontinued production of Model 602 electric blankets. This recall affects only these **approximately 53,000 blankets**. No other Sunbeam electric blanket products are affected by the recall. All other Sunbeam electric blanket products utilize a different type of safety circuit, which Sunbeam has used for many years, and they are not affected by the recall.

All of the recalled blankets were produced at Sunbeam's Waynesboro, Mississippi blanket factory. The recalled blankets were sold during the Winter of 1997-98 in Bradlee's stores in the Northeast and Kohl's and Hills stores, primarily in the Midwest. In addition, blankets marked as second quality were sold under the name "Arlington" to various discount retailers.

Sunbeam has received **three complaints from consumers resulting from a malfunction of the safety circuit in these blankets, one of which involved minor personal injury.**

Model 602 blankets can easily be identified by the green lettering on the permanent label on the blanket, which can be found at the foot of the blanket, near the point where the connecting cord is plugged in. Other Sunbeam electric blankets have blue lettering on the label and are not being recalled.

The model number appears in the lower left hand corner and is as follows:

Twin Size	88460-602
Full Size	88472-602
Full (Dual Control)	88473-602
Queen Size	88484-602
King Size	88400-602

Consumers should stop using the recalled Model 602 blankets immediately. Sunbeam is offering consumers their choice of a replacement electric blanket with a traditional safety circuit, or a full refund. Consumers will be asked to return the control box from the recalled blankets, rather than the entire blanket, in order to receive an exchange or refund. Sunbeam will repay the cost of returning the

controller to Sunbeam and the cost of sending a replacement blanket to the consumer.

For further information and return instructions, consumers should call Sunbeam toll free at 1-800-440-4668 at any time.

Contact:

Maureen Bailey
Sard Verbinnen & Co.
212-687-8080

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Fact Sheet

- Sunbeam is voluntarily recalling all production of an electric blanket with a new type of safety circuit. In these 53,000 electric blankets, identified as Model 602, the heat-sensing safety circuit could malfunction, potentially resulting in a fire.
 - Sunbeam has discontinued production of Model 602 electric blankets.
 - No other Sunbeam electric blanket products are affected by the recall. All other Sunbeam electric blanket products utilize a different type of safety circuit, which Sunbeam has used for many years, and they are not affected by the recall.
 - The recalled blankets were sold only during the Winter of 1997-98, and were sold primarily in three stores: Bradlee's in the Northeast, and Kohl's and Hills, primarily in the Midwest. In addition, blankets marked as second quality were sold under the name "Arlington" to various discount retailers.
 - Sunbeam has received three consumer complaints, which may have resulted from a malfunction of the safety circuit. In one case, there was a minor personal injury.
 - Model 602 blankets can be identified by **green** lettering on the label, which is at the foot of the blanket. The model number is in the lower left corner of the label. Model 602 blankets were sold in twin, full, queen and king sizes in a variety of colors.
- Specific Model Numbers Are As Follows:
- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Twin Size | 88460-602 |
| Full Size | 88472-602 |
| Full (Dual Control) | 88473-602 |
| Queen Size | 88484-602 |
| • King Size | 88400-602 |
- All Sunbeam electric blankets are designed to shut off automatically if a problem develops with the wiring. The blankets being recalled had a new heat-sensing safety circuit, which was designed to also detect external safety hazards, such as smoking in bed.
 - Sunbeam is offering consumers their choice of a replacement blanket with the traditional safety circuit or a full refund. To participate in the recall, call your Sunbeam customer service representative toll-free at (800) 440-4668.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Why is Sunbeam recalling electric blankets?

Sunbeam is voluntarily recalling all production of an electric blanket with a new type of safety circuit. In these 53,000 blankets, identified as Model 602, the heat-sensing safety circuit could malfunction, potentially resulting in a fire. The recall affects **only** these blankets. **There is no safety problem with other Sunbeam electric blanket products.**

Q. How do I know if I have one of the recalled electric blankets?

The Model 602 blanket is easily identified by **green** lettering on the label, which can be found at the foot of the blanket. The model number is in the lower left corner of the label. No other Sunbeam electric blankets have a label with **green** lettering. The recalled blankets were sold only during the Winter of 1997-98. The blankets were sold in Bradley's stores in the Northeast, and Kohl's and Hills stores, primarily in the Midwest. In addition, blankets marked as second quality were sold under the name "Arlington" to various discount retailers.

Specific Model Numbers Are As Follows:

Twin Size	88460-602
Full Size	88472-602
Full (Dual Control)	88473-602
Queen Size	88484-602
King Size	88400-602

Q. How do I participate in the recall?

First, stop using the Model 602 blanket immediately. Sunbeam will provide your choice of a replacement blanket or a full refund. It's not necessary to send us the entire blanket, but we do ask that you send us the control box. Simply unplug the control unit from the blanket.

Send the control box to Sunbeam at the following address:

Sunbeam Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 5062
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49003-5062

Be sure to enclose your name and address and let us know whether you want a replacement blanket or a refund check. If you request a replacement blanket, we'll send you the same size and color of the blanket you bought. For a refund, advise Sunbeam of the size of your blanket and the amount you paid for it.

Sunbeam will reimburse any shipping charges up to \$5.00.

For more information on the Sunbeam Model 602 electric blanket recall, call your Sunbeam customer service representative toll-free at (800) 440-4668.

Q. Are other Sunbeam electric blankets safe?

Yes. All Sunbeam electric blankets are designed to shut off automatically if a problem develops with the wiring. The blankets being recalled had a new heat-sensing safety circuit, which was designed to also detect external safety hazards, such as smoking in bed. Other Sunbeam electric blanket products have a safety circuit with a different design which has been in use for many years and is safe. Because the new design would provide additional protection from external safety hazards (such as smoking in bed), we will continue to work on it, but it will not be reintroduced into our blankets until it is proven to be safe.

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Sunbeam Model 602 Electric Blanket Recall Shipping Information

The recall of Sunbeam electric blankets involves only Model 602 blankets. These blankets can be easily identified by their **green** lettering on the label, as well as the model number, which appears in the lower left corner of each label. If your Sunbeam electric blanket has a label with blue lettering, it is safe to continue using and is not being recalled.

If you have a Sunbeam Model 602 electric blanket with **green** lettering on the label, **stop using it immediately**. The safety circuit in the blankets could malfunction, potentially resulting in a fire.

The Model 602 blankets were sold only during the Winter of 1997-98 and were primarily sold in three stores: Bradlee's in the Northeast, and Kohl's and Hills, primarily in the Midwest. In addition, blankets marked as second quality were sold under the name "Arlington" to various discount retailers. Model 602 blankets were sold in twin, full, queen and king sizes in a variety of colors.

Specific Model Numbers Are As Follows:

Twin Size	88460-602
Full Size	88472-602
Full (Dual Control)	88473-602
Queen Size	88484-602
King Size	88400-602

Sunbeam will provide your choice of either a replacement blanket or a full refund. It's not necessary to send us the entire blanket, but we do ask that you send us the control box. Simply unplug the control unit from the blanket, and send the control box to Sunbeam at the following address:

Sunbeam Products, Inc.
P.O. Box 5062
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Be sure to enclose your name and address and let us know whether you want a replacement blanket or a refund check. If you request a replacement blanket, just let us know the size and color of the blanket you are returning so we can send you a similar one. For a refund, advise Sunbeam of the size of your blanket and the amount you paid for it.

Sunbeam will reimburse any shipping charges up to \$5.00

For more information on the Sunbeam Model 602 electric blanket recall, please call your Sunbeam customer service representative toll-free at (800) 440-4668.

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