

NEWS from CPSC

U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission

Office of Information and Public Affairs

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Certain 30 And 40 Gallon A.O. Smith LP And Natural Gas Water Heaters Voluntarily Recalled

WASHINGTON, DC--In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), **A.O. Smith Water Products** Company of Irving, TX, is voluntarily recalling and replacing approximately **29,000 flue baffles** installed in water heaters manufactured and distributed by its McBee, SC facility **between April 16, 1991 and July 9, 1991**. The affected water heaters are limited to A.O. Smith natural and liquefied petroleum gas 30 and 40 gallon heaters. Only **FSG and PGX models with serial numbers beginning with MD91, ME91, MF91, or MG91** are subject to this recall. A.O. Smith electric water heaters have no flue baffle and therefore are not subject to this recall.

Affected models have **oversized flue baffles that may produce unacceptably high levels of carbon monoxide**, high levels of heat at the bottom of the unit, and result in less efficient operation of the water heater. A.O. Smith has received **no reports or claims of injury** resulting from the flue baffle.

CPSC was informed of this potentially unsafe flue baffle by A.O. Smith which, in the course of its random testing, discovered that **high levels of carbon monoxide were being generated** by units fitted with the improperly sized baffles. The company has already replaced the flue baffles in approximately 13,000 affected water heaters.

The affected water heaters were **distributed east of the Mississippi River** by plumbing wholesalers and distributors. A.O. Smith **FSG and PGX model water heaters which were purchased prior to April 1991 or after July 1991 do not contain oversized baffles and are not subject to the recall**. Consumers who own one of the affected water heaters and have not already received recall information from the company should contact A.O. Smith Water Products Company toll-free at 1-800-527-1953 to arrange for the free replacement of the flue baffle.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is announcing this recall as part of its mission to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury and death associated with consumer products.

[Send the link for this page to a friend!](#) The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from more than 15,000 types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. Deaths, injuries and property damage from consumer product incidents cost the nation more than \$700 billion annually. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products - such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals - contributed significantly to the 30 percent decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 30 years.

To report a dangerous product or a product-related injury, call CPSC's hotline at (800) 638-2772 or CPSC's teletypewriter at (800) 638-8270, or visit CPSC's web site at www.cpsc.gov/talk.html. To join a CPSC email subscription list, please go to www.cpsc.gov/cpsclist.asp. Consumers can obtain this release and recall information at CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.