



Recall of Honda Snowblowers Due to Fire Hazards

By Personal Injury Lawyers Sacramento

Americans living in the northern parts of the country must frequently use snowblowers to clear snow and ice from areas around their homes during the winter months. Local governments employees also stand ready to clear urban roads and freeways of excess snow.

While most of us realize that it can be dangerous to maneuver these large machines, we forget that they may also pose fire and other hazards to consumers.

Details of Honda Snowblower Recall

Honda is currently recalling some of its red and black snowblowers that were sold nationwide between April 2005 and November of 2010 by Honda Power Equipment dealers. The prices charged for these snowblowers manufactured in Japan ranged from \$2,000 to \$3,400.

According to the U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), these machines pose a risk to the public since their joints and O-rings (located beneath the fuel tanks) sometimes leak or drip fuel, creating fire hazards. Although no specific injuries or fires have been reported to the CPSC, more than 90 reports of dripping fuel have been received.

The specific model numbers and frame serial numbers of the recalled snowblowers are listed below:

Model Frame Serial Number	
HS724	SZBE-1037913 through 1046577
HS928	SZAS-1151080 through 1169012
HS1132	SZBF-1018734 through 1025998

(Consumers can find the model numbers listed right after Honda's name on the sides of the snowblowers' front scoops. The frame serial numbers are located on the rear parts of the machines, just below the engines.)

Safety Warnings and Tips Regarding All Snowblowers

The [American Society for Surgery of the Hand](#) and the [Extension Service](#) of North Dakota State University have provided some of the following safety tips for properly using snowblowers.

- Since 90% of all snowblower injuries involve the user's dominant hand, be sure to *never use either hand* to try and clear the snowblower's chutes. Also, be absolutely certain that you've turned off your snowblower before trying to make any adjustments to its parts.
- Always use a large stick or broom handle to try and clear one of the machine's clogged chutes;
- Only operate a snowblower when you're completely sober and in good health;
- Be sure to provide adequate teaching sessions to any *adult* wanting to safely operate your snowblower. Those best suited to this task will have sufficient strength and height to carefully maneuver the machine on various surfaces. They must also be able to make quick and accurate safety decisions when problems arise;
- When snowblower operators use electric models, they must be careful to avoid running over (or otherwise severing) the power cord since that can cause someone to suffer a serious shock or electrocution;
- Before *each* use of your snowblower, make sure all of its shields are in place. Far too many people have suffered serious hand and foot injuries while using these machines;
- If your fuel-engine powered snowblower is creating toxic fumes or leaking fuel, have it inspected and fixed immediately so no one will suffer any serious fire or inhalation injuries;
- Keep in mind that once the snowblower starts moving large snow deposits, its chutes will also be projecting various foreign objects into the air. Whenever possible, try to first walk across the area you want to clear, carefully removing any tree branches, large rocks or other potentially harmful objects that could hurt someone;
- Always take your snowblower in for regular maintenance check-ups. Be sure the tires are properly inflated and the engine oil level is acceptable. If you're using a power cord, make sure it isn't damaged;

- Check to be sure you're operating your snowblower in accordance with all local rules and ordinances, especially if you'll be maneuvering it across city sidewalks or the street in front of your home;
- Consider using a shovel in areas where you're most likely to lose your footing or control over a snowblower; and
- Always dress warmly while using a snowblower and return indoors at regular intervals to avoid frost bite or other health problems. *Always turn the machine off* when leaving it periodically and make sure that no one can easily turn it on while you're away.

We hope this recall information and the safety tips will help you continue using your snowblower in the safest manner possible.

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