

To:  
Administrator  
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
1200 New Jersey Ave, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

[REDACTED]  
Payson, AZ [REDACTED]

To whom it may concern:

I bought a Forest River Salem Lite travel trailer a few years ago. We use it primarily for our grand kids to sleep in when they come to visit, but it also serves as a camping trailer on Big Game Hunts in Arizona.

While camping on the North Kaibab in late October, we had a snow storm hit the second day we were there, and it was cold and freezing the rest of the trip, except for a short time during the day when things began to thaw.

It was during this time that an engineering flaw was exposed. I had been aware after my purchase, that the canopy that rolls out, does not even cover the door into the camper! On top of that, the gutter that drains the water off the roof, drains right in the middle of the door, and onto the metal step into the trailer.

As I stepped out of the trailer early one morning, I found myself on the ground when I slipped on the ice built up on the step. At [REDACTED] years of age, this could have been a very bad situation, as the nearest hospital was over 50 miles away. Fortunately, nothing was broken, but I sprained my left thumb and it has yet to fully recover.

Then, on our last night there, as I stepped out once again, the step, which had water dripping on it while we were cooking dinner, now was frozen once again, and when I stepped out, down I went. This time, my left knee was injured. That was on Friday, October 29. The next day we were packing up and leaving for home, a 245 mile drive with an injured knee. Still hurts, but slowly recovering.

Both of these incidents could have been avoided with proper engineering to ensure the canopy covers the steps and door, and the gutter doesn't drain on the steps. I will never buy another Forest River product and will tell anyone and everyone to look elsewhere when looking for a camping trailer.

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Payson, AZ  
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Payson AZ [Redacted]

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