

Sureguard

Premium Solar Snake Repellent

A close-up photograph of a Sureguard Model #358 solar snake repellent. The device features a black, dome-shaped solar panel at the top, which is mounted on a black cylindrical pole. Below the solar panel is a black rectangular base with the brand name 'Sureguard' and 'MODEL #358' printed in white. The entire device is set against a background of lush green grass.

Sureguard

MODEL #358

Model #358

Don't Wait to See a Snake®

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QUICK START (Read First)

Get up and running in a few simple steps.

Choose the Right Location

Install where the solar panel receives direct sunlight for most of the day, ideally between 9am and 3pm. If this isn't possible, choose the Sureguard Sun & Shade Battery Model 354, which is designed specifically for shaded locations.

Prepare Ground

Dig a hole approximately 18cm deep. Break up the soil finely (no clumps). Avoid heavily mulched areas.

Install Repellent

Insert repellent so that 12cm is above ground (18cm below ground). Backfill using the **same** finely crumbled soil. Water the soil to remove air gaps and improve vibration transfer.

Spacing

Place repellents 10-25m apart. Closer is better. Reduce spacing in sandy, gravelly or rocky soil.

Avoid Barriers

Vibration does NOT pass effectively through concrete, rocks, pavers, deep cracks, large roots and similar. Think of each repellent as a circle of vibration. These objects block that circle. Add extra units to cover these unprotected areas.

Switch ON

The ON/OFF switch is a raised, rubber sealed push-button switch under the case. It is ON when clicked in. The repellent should immediately begin its vibration cycle.

The repellent is shipped with minimal stored power. Please allow a few sunny days for operation to stabilise.

HOW IT WORKS

Snakes are naturally cautious animals. When they detect strong low-frequency ground vibrations, similar to those produced by people or large animals, they will often avoid the area or move away.

Sureguard repellents generate carefully controlled ground vibrations. Once installed and switched on, the repellent cycles continuously, pulsing about every 45 seconds. This encourages snakes to leave the area.

Scientific Basis

Research shows snakes are extremely sensitive to vibration. This sensitivity allows them to detect distant movement through vibrations in the ground.

“Snakes can detect lower-jaw vibrations with amplitudes as small as 10^{-10} metres (angstrom scale) at relevant frequencies.” (Friedel et al., 2008; Hartline, 1971; Wever, 1978).

WHAT TO EXPECT

How quickly does it work?

- Deterrence begins with the very next snake that approaches the protected area. It will usually avoid the area or retreat.

Exception:

- If a snake is already trapped inside the protected area (e.g. under a house) exit timing is unpredictable.

Will I still see snakes?

Generally no, however:

- A frightened or fleeing snake may pass through the area.
- Snakes moving over hard surfaces (concrete, pavers) are not affected.
- A snake already inside the protected area may take time to leave.

Is it a Barrier?

No, not physical. It is a deterrent system.

COVERAGE & PLANNING

Every property is different. Plan your installation before digging any holes. The aim is to create overlapping vibration coverage, leaving no gaps where snakes can enter. Closer spacing provides stronger protection.

The recommended spacing is up to 25 metres (reduce to 10 metres in sandy or rocky soils).

Refer to the following Installation Guide before deciding on locations.

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Critical Rules (illustrated page 6)

- Install 18cm deep (12cm is above ground).
- Ensure tight soil contact.
- Use same soil (no mixing textures).
- Water after installation (important).

Avoid These Mistakes

- Hammering repellent into the ground.
- Air gaps left around tube (noisy sound).
- Installing in heavily rocky/gravel soil.
- Unintentionally blocking the vibration, caused by: hard surfaces, buildings, walls, tree roots, and similar barriers.

Barrier Awareness

Vibration transmission can be reduced or stopped in the following situations and may require additional repellents:

- Large cracks or trenches in the soil.
- Sudden elevation changes (edges, retaining walls).
- Loose or highly variable ground (gravel, fill, broken rock).
- Hard surfaces such as concrete or bitumen that limit vibration transfer into surrounding soil.
- Large tree roots.

Placement for Optimum Solar

Because this is a solar-powered model, ensure the panel receives direct sunlight for most of the day. Avoid shade from buildings, fences, shrubs and trees. If adequate sunlight isn't available, choose the Sun & Shade Battery Model 354.

SOLAR CHARGING & ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

How solar charging works

The Premium Solar Snake Repellent uses a long-life super-capacitor instead of rechargeable batteries. During the day, the solar panel charges the super-capacitor. The stored energy powers the repellent overnight and during subsequent periods of cloudy weather.

Unlike rechargeable batteries, the super-capacitor is designed for a long service life.

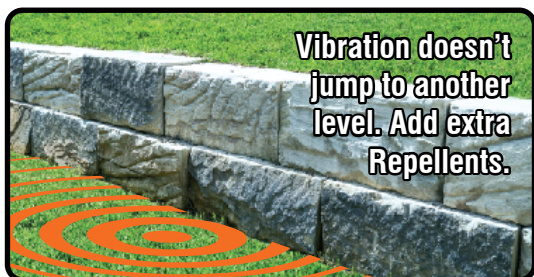
Looking after your repellent

Regularly:

- Clean the solar panel.
- Trim vegetation that shades the panel.
- Switch OFF then ON to confirm the vibration is working.

The LED garden light

The LED light is a decorative garden light. It automatically switches OFF after four to six hours each night to conserve energy for repellent operation. It could be less than this depending on daily solar charging. This is normal.



Place Repellents no more than 25m apart. In sandy or rocky soil reduce to 10m.



Poor soil contact will cause a weak vibration and noisy operation.



Avoid air gaps!

Shadow effect.



Vibration doesn't pass through buildings. Add a Repellent to cover the other side.

Vibration doesn't pass through hard substances like rocks & concrete. Avoid limiting your area coverage.



Do not install in shadows. If unavoidable, install our battery model.



TROUBLESHOOTING

The repellent isn't vibrating

Check the following:

- Is the ON/OFF switch ON?
- Has the repellent received direct sunlight today?
- Is the solar panel clean?
- Is the repellent installed where it receives direct sunlight for most of the day?
- Test the unit, switch it OFF, wait 10 seconds, then switch it ON again. A working unit will normally vibrate briefly during start-up.
- If it still doesn't operate after a full day of charging in direct sunlight, contact Sureguard Technical Support.

Stopped working after a few days

This usually indicates the repellent isn't receiving enough sunlight to fully recharge. Move the repellent to a sunnier location to fully recharge.

Common causes include:

- Buildings or fences casting shadows.
- Trees or shrubs shading the solar panel.
- Shorter winter days, longer shadows.
- Extended periods of cloudy weather.

It works in summer but not winter

Winter brings shorter days and longer shadows. A location that receives adequate sunlight in summer may become too shaded in winter. Relocate the repellent to a position that receives more direct sunlight.

It doesn't seem to work early in the morning

If the unit is inactive early in the morning, it usually means the previous day's solar charging was insufficient. Ensure the solar panel receives direct sunlight between 9am-3pm and is not shaded by buildings, fences or vegetation.

The LED light goes out after a few hours

This is normal. The LED garden light automatically switches OFF after approximately four to six hours to conserve stored energy for repellent operation.

The repellent is noisy

A little audible sound is normal. When correctly installed, most of the vibration is transferred into the soil and airborne sound is reduced.

If the unit is noisy:

- Check that it is installed 18cm deep.
- Ensure the soil is finely crumbled and packed firmly around the Vibration Tube.
- Water the soil after installation to remove air gaps.

If the repellent is installed close to living areas and lower noise is important, consider the Sureguard Ultra Quiet Model 356.

There is moisture inside the case

A small amount of condensation may occasionally occur due to changes in temperature and humidity and is generally harmless. It may clear itself as the weather changes.

There is water in the case

If you notice a significant amount of water inside the case, or suspect water has entered through damage or flooding, contact Sureguard Technical Support.

My repellent has lost charge after several cloudy days

Several consecutive cloudy days may reduce the stored energy. Switch the repellent OFF until sunny weather returns. This will allow it to quickly recharge before switching it back ON.

The solar model isn't suitable for my location

Premium Solar Snake Repellents require direct sunlight for most of the day. If your installation site is permanently shaded by buildings, fences or trees, the Sureguard Sun & Shade Battery Model 354 is the better choice.

The repellent is making a high-pitched sound

The repellent produces low-frequency ground vibrations approximately every 45 seconds. Depending on soil conditions and installation, some higher-frequency airborne sound may also be heard.

Correct installation usually reduces this sound. If lower airborne noise is important in sensitive areas, consider the Sureguard Ultra Quiet Model 356.

Still having problems?

If you've worked through the checks above and the problem persists, please contact Sureguard Technical Support. Some installation sites or operating conditions are unique and require individual assessment. We'll be happy to help.

Proper Use

For best results, use as part of a complete snake management strategy:

Reduce rodent food sources

- Clean up fallen fruit
- Avoid leaving bird seed or pet food exposed.

Maintain garden

- Keep grass short
- Remove hiding places: Wood piles, Rock piles, Debris, Building materials (corrugated iron, etc)

Safety & Liability

This product reduces risk but does not eliminate it. Always remain vigilant in snake-prone areas.

May be less effective for:

- Tree snakes.
- Juvenile snakes.
- Ambush species (such as Death Adders).
- Snakes that avoid danger by staying still or hiding, rather than moving away (relying on camouflage or shelter).

Performance depends on:

Correct installation

- Proper ground contact is essential. The unit must be firmly inserted into the soil so vibrations transfer efficiently into the ground.

Soil conditions

- Different soils transmit vibration differently.
- Loose, sandy, or dry soils reduce vibration range, while dense, moist soils carry vibration more effectively.

Property layout

- Hard surfaces and terrain changes can block or reduce vibration range.
- Concrete, rock, bitumen, deep cracks, and elevation changes can limit how far vibrations travel.

Snake behaviour

- Some species rely on camouflage or shelter rather than moving away, and may respond less, or not at all, to vibration.

Product Range

Sureguard manufactures three types of snake repellent. Select according to your conditions:

Model 354 - Battery (Sun & Shade)

- Works in all light conditions.
- Up to 12 months battery life (batteries not included).

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/354

Model 356 - Ultra Quiet Solar

- Enhanced quiet vibration output.
- Multi-pulse *cycled* vibration.
- Screw thread shaft. No dig installation in moist soil.
- Long-life super capacitor backup power
- On/off switch.

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/356

Model 358 - Premium Solar

- Enhanced vibration output.
- Multi-cycle vibration.
- Long-life super capacitor for backup power.
- LED garden light feature.
- On/off switch.

Details here: www.sureguard.com.au/358

Snake Safety

Snake Encounter

If you encounter a snake, you may be startled. Don't panic! Try to remain calm.

- Immediately halt. Remain still because snakes react to movement.
- DO NOT make any sudden movements.
- If the snake is more than a few metres from you, move very slowly away while watching carefully to see if the snake reacts. If the snake begins to look agitated, stop until it moves away from you.
- If the snake is close, then remain still until the snake moves away from you.

References: Queensland Department of Environment & Heritage Protection.

Snake Bites

In Australia, there are about 3000 snake bites per year. Many snakebite cases occur when people try to handle, catch or kill a snake. Snakes can be active any time of day, even later in the evening, so stay vigilant.

- DO NOT attempt to catch or kill snakes.
- DO NOT provoke or corner a snake.

First Aid

[Reference: Queensland Department of Health]

Snakebites can be life threatening.

- Call 000 immediately.
- Keep the person still.
- Do not wash, cut, suck, or apply a tourniquet to the bite.
- Apply pressure immobilisation first aid described on pages 15 to 17.
- Wait for medical help.

The bite site may be painless.

Symptoms may include:

- **Within 1hr:** Headache (a vital symptom), irritability, sensitivity to light, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, confusion; coagulation abnormalities; occasionally sudden hypotension with loss of consciousness.
- **1-3 hrs:** Cranial nerve paralysis (ptosis, diplopia, dysphagia etc.), abdominal pain, haemoglobinuria, hypertension, tachycardia, haemorrhage.
- **Beyond 3hrs:** Limb and respiratory muscle paralysis leading to respiratory failure, peripheral circulatory failure with pallor and cyanosis, myoglobinuria, eventually death.

Pressure Immobilisation First Aid

“Pressure-Immobilisation First Aid” is recommended by Queensland Health. Its purpose is to slow venom movement from the bite site into the circulation, buying time to reach medical care. Research has shown that very little venom reaches the blood stream if firm pressure is applied over the bitten area and the limb is immobilised.

Keep some Compression Bandages in your First Aid kit. One brand called AeroForm includes an indicator to get the optimum pressure. Advise all family members how to use the bandages correctly.

Please refer to the illustrations on page 17.

Bandages and splinting, when correctly applied, should be comfortable for hours.

IMPORTANT:

- Stay calm. Remain still. Seek assistance. In Australia, Call 000 for an ambulance.
- DO NOT wash or touch the wound. Traces of venom may help identify the snake.
- Only the doctor should remove the bandage.

Bites to the lower limb

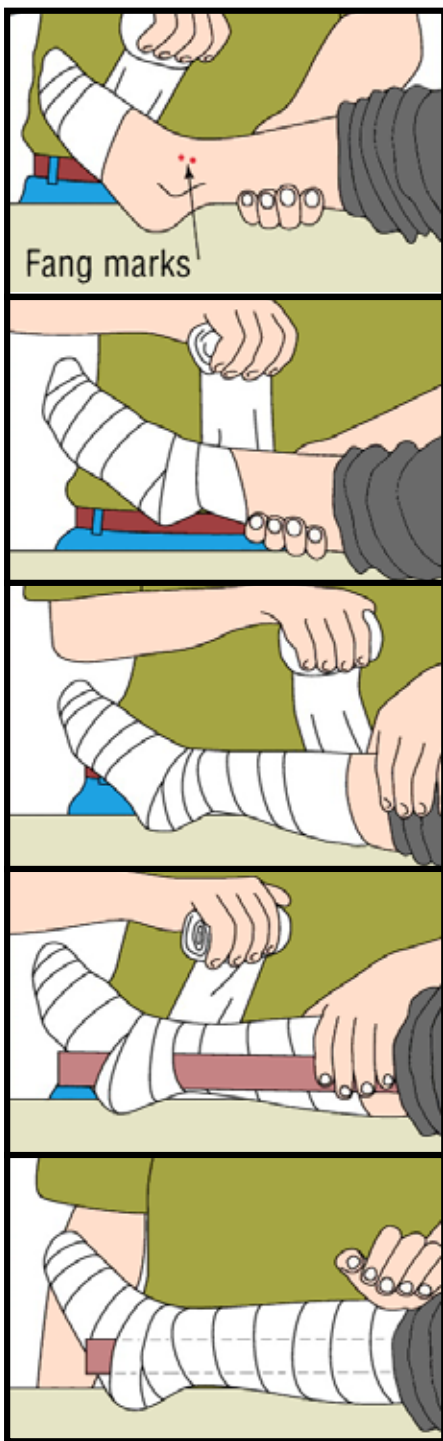
- Apply a broad compression bandage over the bite site as soon as possible. Crepe bandages are ideal, but any flexible material may be used. For example, clothing, towels, pantyhose may be torn into strips.
- DO NOT take off clothing as the movement can push venom into the bloodstream. Keep still.
- Bandage upwards from the lower portion of the bitten limb. Bandage as tightly as you would apply to a sprained ankle. Bandage as high as possible on the limb.
- Apply a splint to the leg. Any rigid object may be used. Bind it firmly to as much of the leg as possible.

Bites to the hand or forearm

- Bandage as much of the arm as possible, starting at the fingers.
- Use a splint from hand to the elbow.
- Use a sling to immobilise the arm.

Bites to the trunk

- Keep the person still and wait for the ambulance.



References: Queensland Department of Health. Images © Treatment of bites by adders and exotic venomous snakes. David A Warrell. *BMJ* 2005;331:1244

Bites to the head or neck

- Keep still until the ambulance arrives.

References: Queensland Department of Health. Images © Commonwealth Serum Laboratories. Dr. Struan K. Sutherland, Sydney University.

This first aid information is general guidance only. Always follow the instructions of emergency services and current official first aid guidance.

FAQ

How many repellents do I need?

Every home and garden is different. The key is to position the repellents so their vibration areas overlap, leaving no gaps in coverage. Take time to read the Installation Guide on page 3, 6 & 7. A simple sketch of your property can help you plan the best layout.

Do Sureguard Snake Repellents make a noise?

A correctly installed unit should transfer most vibration into the soil rather than into airborne sound. All snake repellents produce vibration and some audible sound. The vibration does the real work. Poor installation can make them noisier with less vibration range. If installing near living areas, consider the Ultra-Quiet model.

I saw a snake moving off in the direction of a repellent, why?

If a snake is calmly moving, it will usually avoid the vibration. But if it's startled or frightened, it may rush straight through the area. That's a natural "flight response."

Do Sureguard Snake Repellents repel lizards, e.g. Blue Tongues, etc.?

No. They are designed for snakes only, and there's no evidence they affect lizards.

Do Sureguard Snake Repellents repel frogs, toads, birds, pets, etc.?

No, they are only designed for snakes.

Can snakes get used to the vibration so it becomes less effective?

It's possible but uncommon. It usually only happens if a snake feels trapped. Avoid placing a repellent where it blocks an escape path—let the snake leave first, then install.

Can snakes be caught inside the protective boundary?

Yes, if they're already there. You can have them professionally removed, or install units near the center first and gradually move them outward to guide snakes away.

I found a snake sunning itself on some garden steps. Why wasn't it repelled?

The vibration travels through soil, not hard surfaces. If there's a gap (like a concrete path), a snake can pass through it. Make sure repellents are positioned to cover both sides of these areas.

I have a snake in my roof, can I place the repellent there?

No. These must be installed in the ground. Do not mount them on roofs, gutters, trees, or other structures.

My repellent has cracked. Do you have spare parts?

Spare parts are not available for the outer case. Avoid using grass trimmers (whipper snippers) around the unit, as impact can crack the housing. If appropriate, carefully use a suitable herbicide around the unit to keep vegetation clear.

Manufacturer's Warranty

Sureguard provides a Manufacturer's Warranty to the original purchaser or gift recipient to cover defects in materials and workmanship for a period of 12 months.

Extend your Warranty to 3 Years!

www.sureguard.com.au/warranty-extended

Australian Consumer Law Guarantee

Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure.

Your Warranty, Returns & Full Terms

Sureguard backs every product with a Manufacturer's Warranty. Direct purchases may also be covered by our 30-Day Money Back Guarantee, subject to our terms and conditions.

For full details on your warranty, how to make a claim, our money back guarantee, and your rights as a customer, please visit:
www.sureguard.com.au/terms

Or contact our Technical Team directly — we're here to help.

1800-800-044

www.sureguard.com.au/contactus

A printed copy of our Terms and Conditions is available free of charge on request



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Installation Video:
www.sureguard.com.au/video_snake