



August 2005

2004-2005 RX-8 Fuel Tank Recall 3305G

Dear Mazda Owner:

This notice is sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act.

Mazda Motor Corporation has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2004-2005 RX-8 vehicles produced from April 10, 2003 through July 7, 2005.

If you are a recipient of this notice, your vehicle is included in this campaign.

What is the problem?

On certain 2004-2005 RX-8 vehicles, if a RX-8 is parked and the engine is operated at high RPMs, excessive heat build-up may affect oxygen sensors, the neutral switch and back up lights causing MIL illumination, and exhaust emission and drivability will be adversely affected. It may also lead to problems with the parking brake cable tube causing loss of parking brake function, malfunctions of the gas gauge and possible damage to the fuel tank causing fuel leaks. Fuel leakage in sufficient quantity in the presence of an ignition source could potentially result in a vehicle fire.

What will Mazda do?

Your Mazda dealer will inspect the fuel tank and other parts around the exhaust system, install a heat insulator pad to the fuel tank, as needed, reprogram the PCM (Power Control Module) and replace, as necessary, any parts having heat damage, **free of charge**. The repair should take approximately one hour to complete. However, it may take longer depending on the service workload at your Mazda dealership.

As a reminder, the Mazda Driver's Assurance Plan may provide alternate transportation when your vehicle is at an authorized Mazda dealership for a warranty repair. To be eligible for alternate transportation, your vehicle must be a 2001 or newer and within the mileage and time limitations under the Mazda New Vehicle Limited Warranty and adhere to the Rental Car Reimbursement policy. Ask your dealer for details about the Mazda Rental Car Reimbursement Program.

What should you do?

Mazda is concerned about your safety, and we encourage you to make an appointment with any authorized Mazda dealer to have the fuel tank and other related parts inspected and repaired, if necessary, as soon as possible. You do not need to bring this notice to the dealer, but it may assist in the check-in process.

Important notice to owners registering vehicles in California, Massachusetts, and Vermont: California Department of Motor Vehicles, Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in conjunction with the California Air Resources Board and the Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Massachusetts and Vermont, have

implemented the Registration Renewal/Recall Tie-In Program, which requires the completion of Emission Recalls prior to registration renewal. Mazda dealers will provide a *Vehicle Emission Recall - Proof of Correction* Certificate upon completion of the recall. Be sure to keep the proof of correction certificate provided by the Mazda Dealer until needed for the registration renewal process.

Emission Law Information:

To ensure your full protection under the emission warranty made applicable to your vehicle by State or Federal Law, and your right to participate in future recalls, it is recommended you have your vehicle or engine serviced as soon as possible. Failure to do so could be determined as lack of proper maintenance of your vehicle. Also, your vehicle may fail a state or local emission inspection if this recall is not completed.

What if you have already paid for a repair to the fuel tank and/or parts around exhaust system?

If you have already paid for the inspection or replacement of the fuel tank and/or parts around the exhaust system due to heat damage, you may be eligible for reimbursement of reasonable repair expenses based on Mazda's repair standards. Please complete the enclosed "Reimbursement Application Form," including the necessary documentation, and mail it to us in the pre-addressed envelope provided, allowing 6-8 weeks for processing.

Where is the closest Mazda dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our web site and try our "Locate a Dealer" feature at www.MazdaUSA.com or consult your local yellow pages.

Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your RX-8, please complete the enclosed prepaid *Information Change Card* as soon as possible. This enables us to update our records and notify the current owner.

Federal law requires that any vehicle lessor receiving this recall notice must forward a copy of this notice to the lessee within ten days.

Still have questions?

If you have any questions regarding this campaign, please contact our Customer Assistance Center at (800) 222-5500, option #4.

If Mazda or its dealers do not repair the defect free of charge and within a reasonable amount of time, you may notify the Administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590; or call the toll-free Vehicle Safety Hotline at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); or go to <http://www.safercar.gov>.

Your safety is a priority for Mazda. We actively work to improve our products and search for solutions to improve your ownership experience. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this program may have caused you.

Sincerely,

Mazda North American Operations