

August 2012

2001 - 2008 Tribute 3.0L Engine Cover Modification Voluntary Safety Recall 6812G

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 2001 - 2008 Tribute vehicles equipped with 3.0L engine and cruise control.

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

What is the problem?

On your vehicle, there may be inadequate clearance between the engine cover and the speed control (sometimes known as cruise control) cable, which could allow the engine to be stuck at full power when the accelerator pedal is fully or almost-fully depressed. A throttle that is stuck fully or almost fully open may result in very high vehicle speeds and make it difficult to stop or slow the vehicle, which could cause a crash, serious injury, or death. This risk exists regardless of whether or not cruise control is used.

What will Mazda do?

Your Mazda dealer will modify the engine cover to provide sufficient clearance for the speed control cable on your vehicle free of charge. Parts for this permanent repair are expected to be available in mid-August 2012. As a result, a two-stage repair process has been implemented. If parts are available, your dealer will perform the repair. If parts are not yet available, your dealer will disconnect the speed control cable to eliminate the safety concern. With this interim repair, the speed control system will be inoperable until the permanent repair is performed.

When parts for the permanent repair are available, we will notify you again by mail to contact your dealer to have the repair performed free of charge. We recognize this may be an inconvenience, but we believe this action is in the best interest of our customer's safety. We are closely working with our suppliers to accelerate parts availability.

How long will it take?

The time needed for this repair is less than one-half day. However, due to service scheduling requirements, your dealer may need your vehicle for a longer period of time.

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What should you do?

You can temporarily reduce the possibility of this condition occurring by not fully or almost-fully depressing the accelerator pedal until the vehicle is repaired. If you experience what you believe is a stuck throttle in this or any other vehicle, you should firmly and steadily apply the brakes without pumping the brake pedal, shift to neutral, steer the vehicle to a safe location and shut the engine off after the vehicle is safely stopped.

Mazda is concerned for your safety. Please call your dealer without delay and request a service appointment for this recall. Provide the dealer with the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of your vehicle.

Where is the closest Mazda dealer?

To locate your nearest Mazda dealer, visit our web site and try our "Locate a Dealer" feature at <u>www.MazdaUSA.com</u>.

Moved or no longer own this vehicle?

If you have moved or no longer own your Mazda vehicle, 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 #6.

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, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., 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*.

We apologize for the inconvenience this situation causes, and assure you that we are doing everything possible to expedite resolution.

Sincerely,

Mazda North American Operations