



Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
19001 South Western Avenue, S207
Torrance, CA 90509-2991

TMS-NTC-13055
February 15, 2013

Recall Management Division
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Toyota Safety Recall 12V-542 – Owner Notification - Remedy

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached, for your records, representative copies of the previously approved Owner Notification Letter for Safety Recall 12V-542 on the following Toyota vehicles:

2001 to early 2004 Model Year Toyota Tacoma Vehicles originally sold in and/or currently registered in the following 20 Cold Climate States and the District of Columbia which have high road salt usage:

CT, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT, WI & WV

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at (310) 468-5316.

Sincerely,

Quality Compliance Assistant Manager

Attachments:

- Toyota 12V-542 (C0V) Owner Notification (Remedy)



Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
19001 South Western Avenue
P.O. Box 2991
Torrance, CA 90509-2991

URGENT SAFETY RECALL

This is an important Safety Recall.
The remedy will be performed at
NO CHARGE to you.

**Certain 2001 through 2004 Model Year Toyota Tacoma Vehicles
Excessive Corrosion of the Spare Tire Carrier Lift Plate
SAFETY RECALL NOTICE (Remedy Available)**

[VIN]

Dear Toyota Customer:

This notice is being sent to you in accordance with the requirements of the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act. Toyota has decided that a defect, which relates to motor vehicle safety, exists in certain 2001 through 2004 Model Year Tacoma vehicles.

What is the condition?

This condition affects certain 2001 through 2004 model year Tacoma vehicles originally sold in or currently registered in cold climate areas with high road salt use (Cold Climate States). The spare tire is stored underneath the rear bed of the vehicle and is suspended from the spare tire carrier on a metal lift plate. Under certain environmental and usage conditions, the lift plate could corrode. In limited cases, corrosion of the plate over time could cause it to break, which could result in detachment of the spare tire from the vehicle. Detachment of the spare tire could increase the risk of a vehicle crash.

What will Toyota do?

The remedy for your vehicle is now available. Any authorized Toyota dealer will visually inspect the condition of the spare tire carrier lift plate. Based on the results of the inspection, if significant corrosion is found, the spare tire carrier will be replaced at **no charge** to you.

As an additional measure of confidence, Toyota will also perform a functional test of the spare tire carrier to ensure proper operation. The functional test will also be performed at **no charge** to you.

What should you do?

This is an important Safety Recall

Please contact any authorized Toyota dealer and make an appointment to have the spare tire carrier lift plate inspected and, if necessary, replaced. The inspection of the spare tire carrier and its lift plate will take approximately 10 minutes. If the dealer determines the spare tire carrier requires replacement, the repair will take approximately 40 minutes. However, depending upon the dealer's work schedule, it may be necessary to make your vehicle available for a longer period of time.

This Safety Recall involves customers whose vehicles were originally sold in and/or currently registered in the following 20 Cold Climate States and the District of Columbia which have high road salt usage.

CT, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT, WI & WV

You do not need an owner letter to have this recall completed; however, to assist the dealer in confirming vehicle eligibility, we request that you present this notice at the time of your service appointment.

If you would like to update your vehicle ownership or contact information, you may do so by registering at www.toyota.com/ownersupdate. You will need your full 17-digit Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) to input the new information.

If you have moved to another state, but would like to have your vehicle inspected, please contact your local Toyota dealer for assistance.

What if you have other questions?

- **Your local Toyota dealer will be more than happy to answer any of your questions and set up an appointment to perform the repair.**
- You can find additional information and locate a Toyota dealer in your area by going online and visiting www.toyota.com/recall.
- Additional information is also available by contacting the Toyota Customer Experience Center at 1-888-270-9371 Monday through Friday, 5:00 am to 6:00 pm, or Saturday 7:00 am through 4:00 pm Pacific Time.

Spanish translation on back side
Traducción en español en el reverso

If you believe that the dealer or Toyota has failed or is unable to remedy the defect within a reasonable time, you may submit a complaint to the Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., Washington, D.C. 20590, or call the toll free Vehicle Safety Hot Line at 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153), or go to www.safercar.gov.

What if you have previously paid for repairs to your vehicle for this specific condition?

If you have previously paid for repair to your vehicle for this specific condition prior to receiving this letter, please mail a copy of your repair order, proof-of-payment and proof-of-ownership to the following address for reimbursement consideration:

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.
Toyota Customer Experience, WC10
19001 South Western Avenue
Torrance, CA 90509

Include your name, address, and telephone number(s) in your request. Please allow us 6-8 weeks to process your request.

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

We have sent this notice in the interest of your continued satisfaction with our products, and we sincerely regret any inconvenience this condition may have caused you.

Thank you for driving a Toyota.

Sincerely,

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES, U.S.A., INC.