# Vehicle Safety Recalls

## Talking Points

To help keep Americans safe inside and outside the vehicle, join the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in reminding drivers to check their vehicles for open safety recalls. NHTSA provides free user-friendly recall look-up tools that allow vehicle owners to check for open safety recalls for their vehicles or automotive equipment, such as tires and car seats. Remember: *Safe Cars Save Lives* and every vehicle recall is a safety-related issue, which means it’s essential to get the repair done immediately.

**Vehicle Safety Recalls Week**

* Spring Daylight Saving Time is a perfect time of year to remember to check your vehicle for safety recalls.
* NHTSA is hosting a Vehicle Safety Recalls Week March 4–10 2024, to coincide with the beginning of Daylight Saving Time on March 10.
* NHTSA urges drivers to check for recalls twice yearly.
* Drivers are encouraged to add “check for safety recalls” to that vital springtime to-do list, which may also include checking smoke detector batteries.

**Check for Recalls**

* Checking for safety recalls is free and easy. Visit [NHTSA.gov/recalls](http://www.NHTSA.gov/recalls) and enter your vehicle’s 17-digit VIN. In seconds, you'll know if your vehicle is subject to an open safety recall.
* NHTSA’s free web recalls tool will provide details on any unrepaired recall in your vehicle — for at least the past 15 calendar years. It will also provide details on unrepaired safety recalls from major automakers, motorcycle manufacturers, and some medium/heavy truck manufacturers.
* At NHTSA.gov/Recalls, [sign up for Recall Alerts](https://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/subscriptions). If your vehicle is included in a future recall, you’ll receive an email letting you know.
* NHTSA’s [SaferCar app](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app) can also help keep you informed about your vehicle. Download the app and enter your vehicle’s VIN, as well as your car seats, tires, or any other automotive equipment information and NHTSA will send you an alert if a safety recall is issued on them. The app is available for iOS and Android.
* Why the [SaferCar app](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app)? With [SaferCar](https://www.nhtsa.gov/safercar-app) you get crucial information in real time. Download the app and set up your virtual garage, then add your vehicles, as well as related equipment like tires, trailers, and car seats. The app notifies you of all related recalls and points you to local dealerships handling vehicle repairs. The app helps you quickly make an appointment and get it fixed for free.
* If you've already downloaded the SaferCar app, Vehicle Safety Recalls Week is a good time to make sure your vehicle and equipment information are up-to-date in the app.
* Look for the VIN on the lower portion of your car's windshield on the driver’s side. Your VIN is also located on your car's registration card, and it may be shown on your insurance card.

**General**

* If your vehicle is affected by a safety recall, contact your nearest dealer to schedule a recall repair as soon as possible. Remember: Every recall is fixed **FOR FREE**.
* An urgent air bag recall is still ongoing, currently the largest vehicle recall in U.S. history, which has resulted in 27 deaths in the United States. [Find out if your vehicle is involved in this recall at NHTSA.gov/Takata.](https://www.nhtsa.gov/equipment/takata-recall-spotlight)
* In 2022, there were [1,050 safety recalls](https://www.nhtsa.gov/annual-recall-reports#recall-reports) affecting more than 31 million vehicles and other equipment in the United States.
* Unfortunately, millions of vehicle recalls go unrepaired every year, which puts drivers, passengers, and others on the road at risk.
* If you have a used vehicle, you may not be receiving your vehicle’s recall notices. This is why it is important to take the initiative, check for yourself, and sign up for safety recall alerts to make sure you’re informed about a recall that affects your safety.
* Speak up! If you think your vehicle may have a safety-related defect that isn’t part of a current recall, submit your vehicle safety complaint at [NHTSA.gov](https://www.nhtsa.gov/report-a-safety-problem) or by calling the agency’s Vehicle Safety Hotline at 888-327-4236. Even one complaint could be enough to trigger a safety recall.

For more information, visit [NHTSA.gov/Recalls](https://www.nhtsa.gov/recalls).