

President's Letter

OK! Ready, set, ZOOM!!! Our May events are sure to put a myriad of events on your menus to provide lots of opportunities for fun in the sun (or cloudy weather). Six cool rides across the Syracuse, Binghamton and Rochester areas for plenty of territory to cover. Thanks to the coordinators for making necessary arrangements for us.

As club news goes, there's nothing that comes to mind to share with you at this time, except that for those who know Ronnie Sabella, she has a new phone number. Feel free to contact her at 315-715-7185 ext 623. She'd love to hear from you.

So, weather permitting, let's get those sweet rides out of storage and on the road and contact the Event Coordinator and your Area Rep to tell them you plan to attend in May and/or June. Blow the dust off your car and let it collect on the recliner for the next few months. Can't wait to see you soon.

Always zooming,

Karen McKissock, 585-820-6010, email: kmckiss1948@gmail.com

Welcome New & Returning Members

Welcome to the Mid-state Miata Club of New York!

We have many events planned each year, some with meals and ice cream. If you recently joined the Club, please keep your orange sticker on your ID badge for 2025, so the old hands can say, “Hi, and Welcome to the Club!”

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>COLOR</u>
Steve & Laura Bentley	Syracuse	1991	Crystal White
Al Lester	Ithaca	2014	True Red

If you are considering joining our Club, we have several places where you can learn about what we do. We have a [website](#), [Facebook page](#), and [YouTube channel](#). When ready, you should fill out page two of the [Membership Brochure](#).

NOTE: To find the full detailed schedule of events for 2025 you can go to our website:

<https://www.midstatemiata.net/calendars.html>

From Bill Lowe, YouTube Coordinator

Everyone is encouraged to share with me whatever pictures or videos you capture while out there on the road. I can then edit it into a video that will help bring attention to the club through the power of YouTube. The videos will be geared to bringing in those Miata owners who are not yet club members.

My sincere apologies for failing to get videos completed on some of the club excursions and ice cream nights from last season. Turns out I have a life outside of the Miata Club (who knew??) and that life took some twists and turns what with family commitments, health issues, and my thriving side business of lighting little cars for model train layouts. That situation has settled down and I did go through a mountain of video clips and pictures to create two videos about an overnight trip experienced by two dozen club members last September. You can see them and all our past club videos at: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=midstate+miata+club. On the page that opens, click on “Videos” between the words “Shorts” and “Unwatched” to the left above the picture for the first video. This way YouTube will show you only the club video.

All of you are encouraged to shoot lots of video and pictures of every club outing you attend. Then send them to me along with a description of the event by uploading your files to this Internet address: <https://www.dropbox.com/request/yloCBAwqpD9s8IU32qjD>. I can use them to edit a video about the event as my time permits and then post it to our YouTube channel. If you need to reach me, my email address is: blowe0542@gmail.com. I promise to try to do better at getting the videos out but remember, “Don’t yell at me... I’m just a volunteer!” -Bill

Refrigerator Schedule - 2025

Date	Event	Coordinator
May 3, Sat	Waterfalls Tour	Ray Mosher
May 7, Wed	Zoom/Zoom Quilt Shop Hop	Merrilee & Al MacWilliam
May 17, Sat	Brownlekar Roadster Museum	Elisha Kasinskas
May 26, Mon	Lafayette Bicentennial	Dale & Cathy Nagel
May 31, Sat	Niagara Club/Middlesex Dinner	Chuck Rischenolke
June 7, Sat	Scenic Drive to Rainbow Lodge	Carol Sherwood Trelease
June 12, Thur	Miranda Cheese Tasting	Bob Dobberstein
June 21, Sat	Return to Hyde Hall	Kevin Smith & Kathy Lester
June 25, Wed	Bob's BBQ **CANCELLED**	Barb Hunsinger
June 28, Sat	Great Country Roads	John Amon
June 29, Sun	Drag Race Day	Al MacWilliam
July 12, Sat	Tour of Mount Morris Dam	Bill Lowe
July 13, Sun	Club Picnic	Ray Mosher
July 26, Sat	The Warfield Loop	Darius Kasinskas
August 1, Fri	Zooming to Women's Rights	Merrilee & Al MacWilliam
August 3, Sun	Skaneateles Polo	Dale & Cathy Nagel
August 14, Thur	Caravan to Ottawa	Lee Maddy & Miriam White
August 16, Sat	"Al" at the Wheel	John Amon
August 23, Sat	2022 Explorium "Rerun"	Darius Kasinskas
September 6, Sat	Trip to Labrador	Debbie Bogan & Chet Wilk
September 14, Sun	Apple Fritter Crawl	Lee Maddy & Miriam White
September 20, Sat	Apple Cider Crawl	Ray Mosher
September 21, Sun	The Final Gulick	Darius Kasinskas
September 28, Sun	Bill Hodge Memorial Rally	Lee Maddy & Miriam White
October 4, Sat	Drive to Belmont Falls	Darius Kasinskas
October 8, Wed	Drive with the Niagara Club	Chuck Rischenole

Our 2025 schedule will not include the Marcellus parade. We will not be scheduling a Cruise Night at the Log Cabin in Macedon either. It is closed for food and the parking lot is in poor repair. We'll keep an eye on it for 2026. Members are encouraged to find a location close to their chapter.

Ice Cream Schedule of 2025

Syracuse Chapter: Dale Nagle, dalen262@aol.com, 315-677-9342

Date	Time	Location
May 8 Thur	6:30 pm	Heid's, Liverpool
May 22 Thur	6:30 pm	Gannon's Valley Dr, Syracuse
June 12 Thur	6:30 pm	Hickory Hill, Baldwinsville
June 26 Thur	6:30 pm	Byrne Dairy, Lafayette
July 10 Thur	6:30 pm	Big Dip, N Syracuse
July 24 Thur	6:30 pm	Fifi's, Eastwood
Aug 7 Thur	6:30 pm	Pete's Polar, Solvay
Aug 28 Thur	6:30 pm	Vickie's, Liverpool
Sept 11 Thur	6:30 pm	Sno Top, Manlius
Sept 25 Thur	6:30 pm	Plank Road, N Syracuse
Oct 9 Thur	6:30 pm	Carvel, Dewitt
Oct 24 Fri	6:30 pm	TBD

Rochester Chapter: Nancy Lowe, nanlowe53@gmail.com, 585-305-4410

Tuesdays	Time	Location
May 6 Tue (was Apr 29)	6:00 pm	New! Peppermints, 4870 W Henrietta Rd, Henrietta (Need head count for dinner) at Colby's, 7272 W Henrietta Rd, Rush
May 13	6:00 pm	Henry's Gooney Village, 1930 NY 96, Phelps (Date changed)
May 27	6:00 pm	NEW! Copper Ale House, 4095 Ridge Rd, Williamson (Need head count for dinner) Yia Yia's Ice Cream Shoppe, 3854 NY 104, Williamson (Date changed)
June 10	6:00 pm	Five Guy's, 927 Holt Rd, Webster, Bruster's, 1041 Ridge Rd, Webster
June 24	6:00 pm	No Finer Diner, 140 W Main St, LeRoy (Need head count for dinner), Cruisers for ice cream behind diner.
July 8	5:00 pm	The Irish Mafia Brewing Company, 2971 Whalen Rd, Bloomfield (Need head count for dinner), Shivers, Shakes, & Cones, 5pm Cruise nights, 6pm dinner

July 22	6:00 pm	Bill Gray's Seabreeze, 4870 Culver Rd, Rochester
August 12	6:00 pm	NEW! Mulconry's Irish Pub & Rest., 17 Liftbridge Ln E, Fairport (Need head count for dinner), Lift Bridge Ice Cream, 6 N Main St, Fairport
August 26	6:00 pm	Krony's Pizza Etc, 500 Hamlin Clarkson Town Line Rd, Hamlin & Lugia's Ice Cream, 4719 Lyell Rd, Spencerport
September 9	6:00 pm	SALT, 7408 Pittsford Palmyra Rd, Fairport (Need head count for dinner), Chill & Grill, 616 E Main St, Palmyra
September 23	6:00 pm	Tom Wahl's, 283 East Main St, Avon, NY & Colby's Ice Cream & Bake Shop, 7272 W Henrietta Rd, Rush (on SR 250)

Binghamton Chapter: Barb Hunsinger, bhunsin928@aol.com, 607-785-5459

Date	Time	Location
Mon, May 5	6:30 pm	Big Dipper Ice Cream & BBQ, Apalachin
Wed, May 21	6:30 pm	Old School House, 17 Fox Farm Rd, Windsor
Mon, June 2	6:30 pm	Funky Beez Ice Cream, Hot Dogs, Rt 26, Vestal
Wed, June 18	6:30 pm	Big Dipper, Conklin Rd, Conklin
Mon, July 7	6:30 pm	Tastie Cream, Vestal Pkwy, Vestal
Wed, July 23	6:30 pm	Bob's BBQ & Ice Cream, 5290 Rt 281, Homer, Super Cream Dairy Bar, 75 N West St, Homer
Mon, Aug 4	6:30 pm	Jones Humdinger, Upper Front St, Binghamton
Wed, Aug 20	6:30 pm	Scoopy Doopy, 45 Lewis St, Binghamton

Ithaca Chapter: Gail Wagner, gwtr3red@gmail.com, 607-257-7445

Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at Purity Ice Cream, 700 Cascadilla St, Ithaca

Month	Days
May	7, 14, 21, 28
June	4, 11, 18, 25
July	2, 9, 16, 23, 30
August	6, 13, 20, 27
September	3, 10, 17, 24

Future Events

Saturday, May 3 - Waterfalls Tour

Event Coordinator - Ray Mosher, Syracuse Chapter

We will run rain or shine for this full-day event, but if a cold washout day is forecast we will consider postponing.

This is number five (I think) in a series of drives to view central New York waterfalls, held in the spring when flows are the greatest. We have moved the start point to the Kwik Fill on Rt 20 just west of Rt 41A just west of Skaneateles (where last years road rally started). Meet at 9:00, departure is 9:15.

We will head south toward Ithaca and stop at several waterfalls in the Ithaca area and plan to drive the ever-popular Enfield Glen road. We will set up a time and place for the Ithaca group to join us en route if they wish.

New York State purchased Frontenac Falls and closed access, so we can't hike to it, but can still see it from the roadside. None of the falls will require more than a short walk to see them. The lunch venue is the Finger Lakes Cider House, a farm-to-table venue with over a dozen hard cider (and other) choices. Total driving time is less than two hours to see five waterfalls. Call Ray at 315-591-2631 (his cell phone) and your Area Rep to join this tour.

Wednesday May 7 - Zoom - Zoom Quilt Shop Hop 2025

Event Coordinators - Merrilee & Al MacWillam, Rochester Chapter

Rain or Shine, but not snow or salt!

This write up has been revised from last month's version now that Merrilee & I have pre-run the route. We will meet at 9:45 am at the first quilt shop on our tour, Hobby House, 1433 Pittsford-



Victor Dr/ Rt 96 in Victor.

From there we will head east as far as Skaneateles, then west again to Williamson, as we visit four additional quilt shops and stop for lunch and ice cream. Total distance is about 125 miles. Photos are from the 2024 event. Contact Al at macwill77@gmail.com or 585-392-7702 by Monday, May 5 if you can join us. I need to give the restaurant a headcount for lunch.



Saturday, May 17 - Browniekar Roadster and a Time Machine

Event Coordinator - Elisha Kasinskas, Rochester Chapter

Rain or Shine we'll meet at Mobil/Dunkin', 1311 Fairport Rd, Fairport, NY at 10:15. We'll depart at 10:30. We're going back in time in a time machine! We'll enjoy a short drive for lunch in Newark, followed by visits to two local museums. First, we'll visit the Hoffman Clock Museum (<https://hoffmanclockmuseum.org/1/index.htm>), stepping into a "time machine." We'll see a unique collection of over 400 clocks, with a special emphasis on the history of New York State clockmakers. Then, we'll stroll across the street to visit the Newark- Arcadia Museum (<https://newarkarcadiamuseum.org/browniekar/>), which features one of only three Browniekar roadsters. These cars were made locally between 1908 to 1911 by the Omar Motor Car Company, a subsidiary of the Mora Motor Car Company in Newark. After our museum visits, we'll head west for ice cream in Palmyra. Route is in development. Mileage TBD.



RSVP/register by May 9 to Elisha Kasinskas, ekasinskas@hotmail.com, 585-737-5425.

Monday, May 26 - Memorial Day, LaFayette Bicentennial Memorial Day Parade

Event Coordinators - Dale & Cathy Nagel, Syracuse Chapter

This will be a Shine only event for the Miata Club.

This is an expanded version of the annual Lafayette Memorial Day parade to celebrate the bicentennial of the town of Lafayette. Meeting time will be approximately 8:30 AM as the parade starts at 9:00 AM. The parade route is about one mile. Driving the parade will be about 45-60 minutes. Throwing of candy IS permitted. We will plan to end at some nearby location for food: late breakfast/ brunch.

Meeting location in Lafayette TBD.

Location for brunch/ breakfast TBD.

Contact Dale at dalen262@aol.com and/or Cathy at cen42085@aol.com if you are planning to attend. We need to give the parade coordinator an approximate count on the the number of cars.

More details will be sent shortly via email from your Area Reps.

Saturday, May 31 - Joining Niagara Miata Club for ride to Middlesex Roast Beef dinner

Event Coordinator - Chuck Rischenolke, Rochester Chapter

This is a Rain or Shine Event.

If you have never done this event before you are about to have a roast beef dinner you won't soon forget. This meal is served family style at tables of eight. Roast beef, real mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, salad, relish tray, rolls, butter, ice tea, and coffee. Cost this season is still \$15.00 per person (cash only). I guarantee you will not leave hungry, as they will keep bringing food until you have your fill. Then they come around with assorted pies for you to choose from. I always suggest getting the pie to go because our next destination is an ice cream stop.

We will meet at 10:30 at McDonald's in Avon, 250 E. Main St. for a drivers meeting and depart at 11:00 for our first stop in Yorkshire for a pit stop where members of the Niagara Miata Club will join us for the ride to Middlesex. The Niagara Club uses the FRS radios on channel 5. If you have one taking up space in a drawer or box bring it along. If you have a FM radio that you can adjust to a specific frequency it is 464.0. There will be one more pit stop on the way to Middlesex. Contact me at candgr@gmail.com or 585-223-7586 by May 24th as we need a headcount for dinner. If you have to cancel on the day of the event please call me at [585-704-9940](tel:585-704-9940) so we won't be delayed waiting for you. Get ready for a fun day on the road and a great meal.

Saturday, June 7 - Drive to Rainbow Lodge for Lunch

Event Coordinator - Carol Sherwood Trelease, Binghamton Chapter

This will be a Shine only event.

This is a scenic drive along the Cannonsville Reservoir for lunch at Rainbow Lodge. The club has been to Rainbow Lodge many times in the past and the drive is back by popular demand. The drive to lunch is about one hour. Then lunch is followed by a return drive via a different route and a stop for ice cream in Bainbridge.

We will meet at the Mirabito Gas Station just off Harpursville, Exit 6 from Interstate 88. Be there at 10:45 for the driver's meeting. We will leave promptly at 11:00 am. There is a limit of 10 cars, so contact me directly to sign up no later than Thursday, June 5 (copy your area rep).

Carol Sherwood Trelease, cell phone: 607-372-7134, Email: buckshotfarm@aol.com.

Thursday, June 12 - Muranda Cheese - Cheese Tasting with wine and beer bar

Event Coordinator: Bob Dobberstein, Rochester Chapter



On June 12, join us for a nostalgic trip to enjoy the finest in cow's milk pasteurized cheese at the Muranda Cheese Company in Waterloo, followed by a flashback to our past for lunch at Mac's Drive-In restaurant, also in Waterloo. Before closing the trip, we will stop for homemade ice cream at Shark's in Bloomfield.

We will meet at the Sunoco Station, 265 Macedon Center Rd., Macedon. Please arrive by 9:40 so we can start the tour by 10:00 a.m. Please note Muranda's Cheese Tastings are \$8.00. Muranda also has available for purchase local beer, wine, and ciders. Craft soda, juice, tea, wine slushies, and cocktails are also available. Planning to join us for this tour? Please contact: Bob Dobberstein by June 4th at alaskatalker@gmail.com.

Saturday June 21 - Return to Hyde Hall

Event Coordinators - Kevin Smith and Kathy Lester, Syracuse Chapter

It's time to return to Hyde Hall, Cooperstown, to see the restoration progress since the Club's last visit in the early 2000's. We will meet in the Green Hills Plaza parking lot, 5957 - 6003 S. Salina St., Syracuse, at 8:30 am. Driver's meeting at 8:45 and departure at 9:00. Our route will take us through the Central New York countryside. Lunch will be at the Hawkeye Bar & Grill, in Cooperstown, located at the Otesaga Resort Hotel. After lunch we will caravan to Hyde Hall for a group tour.



TOUR COST WILL BE \$10 PER PERSON, PAYABLE IN CASH AT THE DRIVER'S MEETING!

Due to the group tour limitations, I am limiting this event to 10 cars or 20 people, first come first served. RSVP/Register by June 13th to Kevin Smith, ksmith03@twcny.rr.com or 315-420-3823, and to your area rep.

Wednesday June 25 - Bob's BBQ **CANCELLED******

Event Coordinators - Barb Hunsinger, Binghamton Chapter

Saturday, June 28 - Great Country Roads from Spencerport to Avon and back to Spencerport

Event Coordinator - John Amon, Rochester Chapter

Join us on Saturday, June 28, at 11:00 AM behind McDonald's at 44 Nichols Street in Spencerport for a fun drive through scenic roads, with a visit to The Abbey of the Genesee gift shop. We'll enjoy lunch at Geneseo Diner, ice cream at Pinkies, and finish in Spencerport!

Contact John Amon at John.N.Amon@gmail.com or 585-617-4334 for more information. Register with John and your area representative by June 24.

Sunday, June 29 - Drag Race Day

Event Coordinator - Al MacWilliam, Rochester Chapter

Shine Only - Rain Date is Sunday, July 6

We will meet at 9:00 am in the Fairport Wegman's parking lot, 6600 Pittsford Palmyra Rd (Rt 31) in Fairport. It will be about an hour's ride to South Butler Nostalgia Dragway, a 1/10 mile drag strip opened in 1958! Admission is \$10 per person which includes the races, pits, a car show which our Miatas will be included in, and an



automotive swap meet. Food and drink are available. Bring lawn chairs! We will stop for ice cream on our way back to Rochester. Trip length is around 70 miles. This track is located about halfway between Syracuse and Rochester so possibly the Syracuse Chapter could organize a trip to meet us there. If not, anyone from any other chapter is welcome to come along on this trip, or meet us there. Contact Al at macwill77@gmail.com or (585) 392-7702 and your Area Rep if you can join us.

Technical Tips

Wench With A Wrench

By Gail Wagner

ARE YOUR TIRES TIRED?

Hello, Miata Club Members.



I have written several articles about tires in the past but I thought it was time for a redux. This is a topic I'm very passionate about and I believe it is of utmost importance from a safety and comfort standpoint.... *heavy on the safety part!*

I hope that you will go take a look at your Miata tires either now or this spring and determine if they need replacement. Just because they may have low mileage and visually good tread doesn't mean they aren't ready for replacement. For my own amusement, I occasionally ask folks if they know how old their tires are. Many have no clue. This is not a good answer.

Please read the good information below and decide if it's time to fork over some of that stimulus check like I did to replace ALL FOUR of your Miata tires or for your daily winter drive, for that matter, if need be.

Not all the information below pertains to our Miata's but I thought it would be good info for any type of vehicle we may be driving, summer or winter.

Stay safe, well, and happy!

Gail

Tire Replacement: Why & When You Should Replace Your Tires

Do you know when to replace your tires? The good news is gauging the health of your tires isn't as complicated as you might think. In most cases, figuring out when it's time for a tire replacement only requires a quick look with a keen eye and maybe the help of a copper penny. You need to know what portions of the tires to look at and what the key tire replacement indicators are. This guide will provide you with all the knowledge you need to accurately assess your tires, determine if they need to be replaced and when, as well as some tips for picking new ones!

Here are the three key concerns related to tire replacement:

1. When should you replace your tires?
2. Why you should replace your tires?
3. What factors should you consider while choosing new tires for replacement?

When Should You Replace Your Tires?

The most common question people ask is “*How often should you replace your tires?*” Generally, there are two different factors that impact when to replace tires: wear and age.

Tire Wear: All tires eventually begin to experience wear. How the tire wears can be an indication of an issue with your alignment or tire pressure. Tire tread should wear evenly across the whole tire rather than on the inside or outside of the tire. The wear on your tires will happen regardless of how good a driver you are although it can be accelerated if you don’t take proper care of the tires.

Tire Age: Tire aging occurs when components of the tire, including the rubber, begin to change over time. This can happen due to environmental impacts and storage conditions, as well as the amount of usage the tire sees when being driven, or the tire sitting with no use.



(21st week of the year; 2018)

Of course, unless you’re a tire expert, it can be difficult to know exactly when tire wear and age indicate that a tire is no longer safe to drive and needs to be replaced. If you’re wondering, “*How do I know when my tires expire,*” a **better question is “How old are my tires and when should I change them?”** To answer that question, it’s time to learn how to read your tires!

Every tire has an indication that states when it was made, down to the week and year. This can help you answer the question: how often you should change

your tires – even if you’re not an expert on the subject. **Industry standards say you should replace passenger and truck/SUV tires on average at 6 years and before 10 years of age. AAA says in their Safe Driver Course replacement should be every five years.** The timing depends greatly on how the tires have been used and the weather extremes it has been subjected to. How a vehicle has been stored can also impact when a tire needs to be replaced. If your tire passes the penny test, and a visual inspection does not show any cracks or damage, but the tire is 6-10 years old, the wisest course of action is to have them replaced. Why take chances with your safety?

Why You Should Replace Your Tires

Knowing how often to replace tires isn't just about taking good care of your vehicle and preventing expensive mistakes. Tires are an extremely important part of your vehicle's safety. Worn or old tires can lead to a variety of problems, including:

- Compromised road grip due to a worn-down tread.
- Blowouts that leave you stranded or even cause you to crash.
- Difficulty stopping and braking effectively.

Additionally, uneven wheel alignments and balance problems will not only cause irregular and premature tire wear, but they can also cause expensive problems for your vehicle, leaving you dealing with a hefty car repair bill in the future.

Don't blow off tire maintenance as something only "car people" do. Every driver on the road should be aware of the health and safety of their passengers and vehicles.

What Factors Can Cause Damage to the Tires?

How long do tires last on average? The problem is there's not a set answer to that question – due to the variety of factors that can lead to a necessary tire replacement. These factors include:

- Tire design from the manufacture. (Some tires are built to last 70,000 miles and other are 40,000 miles or less such as sticky high performance summer tires, so they will have very different time in use.)
- A lack of attention to basic tire maintenance (checking the air pressure, tire rotations, alignment, visible wear, etc.).
- Not using the right tires for different seasons and terrains.
- Potholes, obstacles, curbs, sharp objects, and speed bumps.
- Climate conditions (extreme hot or extreme cold can accelerate wear and tear).
- Excessive braking or acceleration.
- Driving for long periods at high speeds.

Every driver faces different conditions and cares for their cars differently. The bottom line is that you need to be aware of your own driving habits, environment, and tires to ensure you're replacing your tires when necessary.

Signs That Your Tires Need to Be Replaced

The following tips will show you how to tell if tires are worn and need to be replaced soon. Although it is always best to seek professional help with tires, these signs will indicate that you should begin researching new tires for your car.

- **Tread Wear.** A tire's tread depth is measured in 32nds of an inch. New tires have from 9/32" to 11/32" of tread material. Manufacturers, NYS, and AAA recommend replacement at 4/32" of tread left. You can identify the tread depth to replace tires by using the **penny test method** or a tread depth gauge. For the most part, the penny test is very reliable. At least it's a starting point.
- **Bubbles and Bulges.** A bulge on your tire usually indicates that the rigid internal frame of the tires has been damaged, allowing air pressure to reach the flexible outer layers of the tire. Any tires with sidewall bulges or bubbles should be replaced immediately, even if the tread status is acceptable.
- **Vibration.** If your tires have been worn down unevenly, you may feel a vibration in the steering wheel when driving. Vibration can also be caused by poor alignment so it is important to have a tire professional determine the cause of the vibration.
- **Sidewall Cuts or Cracks.** Tire age is a common cause of tire sidewall cracking. All tires are subjected to different harsh conditions, and as a result, **the rubber in the tires naturally degrades over time.** Imagine an old rubber band that's brittle and easily broken. The same effect happens to tires, even if the tires aren't in use and are being stored in a place where cracking can occur. Typically, cracking is caused by sunlight, excessive heat, road surfactants and ozone exposure. Cuts, on the other hand, are typically caused by force – like hitting a rock or something sharp.
- **Embedded nails or stones.** Obviously, if something is lodged in the tire, the issue needs to be addressed immediately. Even if the hole isn't causing excessive leaking, ignoring a hole from something like a nail can lead to problems for the driver later on. Moisture can leak into the tire, causing the steel parts to rust. Lodged items can weaken the area of the tire and possibly lead to dangerous blowouts if not dealt with in a timely manner.
- **Visible damage.** Abnormal wear patterns could indicate wheel misalignment, improper inflation pressure, a need for a tire rotation, or perhaps all of the above.
- **Damaged valve caps.** If the cap can't be tightened enough, it will continuously loosen. If it's too tight, the thread on the stem may become stripped. A damaged valve cap can leak air and also allow dirt, moisture and debris to enter the tire.

How to Select New Tires for Replacement

After you have figured out when to change tires, you'll find that selecting replacement tires a bit of a process. You'll need to start by assessing your driving habits, the types of terrain and seasons you

will be driving in, to determine what you need in a tire. You should also evaluate how well you feel your current tires performed in longevity, handling, ride, noise and any other category you have noticed. A great on-line tire store, The Tire Rack (www.tirerack.com) that I use is an excellent source for tire information and assistance. (Good prices too!)

Before you decide which tire you need, think about what kind of driving you do. If you drive primarily on the highway and city streets, you may need a highway or touring tire. On the other hand, if you typically drive on back roads AND need on-pavement capability, an all-terrain might be your best bet.

How Tires Are Rated: The Uniform Tire Quality Grading Standards (UTQG)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Association (NHTSA) has rated more than 2,400 tire lines. You can use the official NHTSA website to check out the details on specific tires.

Tread Wear

The tread wear grade rates how well a tire compares to others in a specific test. A tire with a grade of 3,000 wears three times as long as a tire that only has a grade of 1,000. However, you should keep in mind that different driving styles, road conditions, and levels of maintenance can also impact tread wear.

Traction

This refers to the tire's ability to stop on different kinds of surfaces, including asphalt and concrete. AA is the best rating a tire can receive, followed by A, B, and then C.

Temperature

The temperature rating indicates the tire's resistance to heat. A is the highest rating, followed by B, and then C.

New vs Second-Hand Tires

Some people, in an effort to save money upfront on the tire replacement cost, turn to old (used) tires as replacements. However, this can be a risky strategy, even if it does save money initially.

Here are some of the issues you can face when buying second-hand tires as replacements.

- There's no guarantee that the tires have been deemed safe for resale.
- Not all damage to old tires is visible, so you can't inspect them by eye.
- The tire's stopping abilities might be compromised, leading to dangerous skidding.

- Blowouts might be more likely with a used tire.

Replacing Spare Tires

Last, but not least, people generally don't pay attention to their spares as they decide when to get tires replaced. Because the spare isn't used much, people assume that it doesn't experience wear or tear and that it doesn't need to be replaced.

However, even spare tires need to be replaced after a certain amount of time. Be sure to check the date of production on the spare before deciding not to replace it. If you're not sure how to check the date of your tire, have a professional help you.

Don't forget to pay attention to visible kinds of age as well. **Just because a tire hasn't really been used doesn't necessarily mean it stays protected from cracks or cuts, as well as other problems that come with age, including:**

- Degraded rubber – cracks and cuts in the sidewalls.
- Loss of flexibility and road grip.
- Compromised structural integrity.

Whether a tire has been driven or not, its lifespan can be affected by its storage condition and treatment. **If you know you will be parking your vehicle for a period of time, it is a good idea to protect the tires from sun and freezing temperatures.** If you are storing winter or summer tires, it is best to store them in a cool, dry location away from sun and other weather elements.

How often should you change your tires?

Tire manufacturers, AAA, and even my Miata Owner's Manual recommend to not keep tires longer than seven to ten years, even if the tread still looks good. Tires disintegrate from the outside in as well as experience tread wear. Don't forget to look at the tire's tread bars to see if they're worn too.

Which tires wear out first?

This is a topic of much debate. However, you will find most vehicles, regardless of if they are front wheel drive or all-wheel drive, will wear the tires on the front more rapidly than the rear. The front tires are responsible for the steering, acceleration and braking, while the rear wheels typically just follow. Most vehicles also have most of their weight on the front of the vehicle, causing the front tires to handle more load than the back tires. Since the wear and tear on the front and back wheels can be different, the answer to which tires wear faster, is typically the front tires.

If you are replacing your tires, all 4 tires must be replaced together. Do not mix different tires on your vehicle. This includes all-wheel drive vehicles as well as front and rear wheel drive vehicles.

Why do tires need to be rotated?

Because tires wear unevenly front to back, regular rotations will allow you to get longer use out of your set of tires by wearing the tread more evenly. Front tires will wear the outside edges down more quickly, so rotation allows you to always have the most tread on the outside of the tire. Not rotating will result in one set of tires wearing and likely needing to be replaced sooner than the other set. Be aware that some tires are “directional” and can only be placed on a wheel in a certain set way. The tire will be marked as non-rotational.

How often should tires be rotated?

First things first: check your vehicle’s owner’s manual to see if it has a recommended rotation scheme. Tires should be rotated roughly every six months or every 6,000 to 8,000 miles. A good rule of thumb is to rotate the tires every other time you get an oil change.

Is the penny test for tires accurate?

Placing a penny head into the grooves of your tire (Lincoln’s head upside down) can help you determine if the tire needs to be replaced soon. If you can see the top of Lincoln’s head, your tires are likely shallow and worn. Use this as an indication of when you should have a tire professional examine the situation.

Is it OK to have different brand tires? Do they need to be replaced in pairs?

If you are replacing only one pair of the tires on your vehicle, these new tires will have a deeper tread depth. Be sure to install the new tires onto the rear axle for better control when driving on wet and winter roads.

Generally, it’s smart to replace all four tires. If you’re wondering “can I replace just one tire the answer is no. The difference in tread depth and stance can throw off your vehicle’s performance. That’s why it’s best to replace ALL four tires at once.

Do all four tires have to be of the same brand?

Generally, it is recommended that you do not mix different tire brands or categories.

Do you have to replace the tires with the same brand that the vehicle originally had?

Nope! Just make sure that all of the tires are evenly matched and appropriate size for your vehicle and your driving habits.

What can you do to make your tires last longer?

The best things to do to make your tires last as long as possible are:

- Check the tire pressure monthly and adjust according to the pressure recommended by your vehicle.
- Have the tires rotated every 6,000 to 8,000 miles.
- Check your vehicle's alignment twice a year.

What do you do after getting new tires?

Once you get your new tires installed, take it easy on the road for a while to break the tires in. New tires may feel different than the tires you replaced since they are likely performing better than a worn tire and have the latest technology.

Also, if you changed categories of tires, you might experience a big change in the feel of your drive. For example, switching from a highway to an all-terrain tire might change the roughness and noise of your drive, as well as your fuel consumption.

In Conclusion

Deciding when to replace your tires is an important decision both for the safety of your vehicle and that of others. Use the above guide to steer you in the right direction and help determine exactly when you should make the switch to brand new tires.

Additionally, deciding what to replace is important. You can increase (as well as decrease) the comfort, fuel efficiency, noise, tread wear, or other aspects based on the decisions you make with new tires.

See You on the Road and Zoom Zoom Safely!

Gail

DISCLAIMER

Please note these tips are not reviewed or approved by the Mazda Motor Corporation or any other corporation or entity other than the originator. The Midstate Miata Club of NY does not accept any liability for damage or injury because of utilizing these tips and pointers. Please use common sense and always remember safety first!

For Sale

If you have a Miata/MX-5 or item for sale or want a Miata/MX-5 or item and would like it to be in our newsletter, please send the information to Lisa Cantone at lisacantone@gmail.com. If you want your ad to be on the website, send the information to Lee Maddy at mrmiataman@yahoo.com. Include a heading, description, your name and contact information (phone, email, address), price, and a photo or two.

Looking for a **NEW** or **PREOWNED** Miata?

If you are considering another vehicle I have a \$500.00 voucher available for any vehicle purchased at Bob Johnson Mazda. Call me at 585-704-9940. - Chuck Rischenole

2001 Mazda Miata LS

Approximately 70,000 Original Miles

★**Engine:** 1.8-liter DOHC inline-four engine with 142 horsepower and 125 ft-lb of torque

★**Transmission:** 6-speed manual transmission with a limited-slip differential

★**Wheels:** 16-inch wheels

★**Safety:** Dual front air bags, passenger side deactivation switch, four-wheel disc brakes, seatbelt pre tensioners, and engine immobilizer

★**Comfort:** Leather seating, glass rear window with defroster, and cruise control

★**Audio:** AM/FM Bose audio system with CD

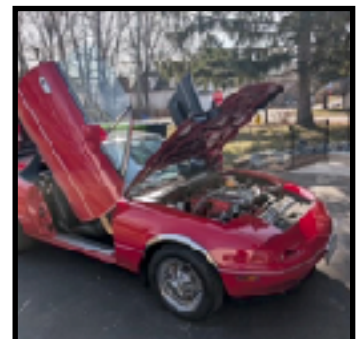
★**Other features:** Power windows, door locks, and mirrors, remote keyless entry, and fog lights **Asking \$9,500 (negotiable).**

Email Elena at EleMiata2001@gmail.com



One-of-a-Kind Cherry Red 1991 Mazda Miata

With over 120 modifications, this multiple "best in show" car turns heads wherever it goes. The odometer shows 66k original miles. Full documentation of every modification, oil change, service and upgrade are included along with most of the OEM parts all boxed up to go with the car, including the original rims, vinyl seat covers and interior pieces. In 2009, this car had a major change with the addition of the Diablo door



conversion. This road ready, one-owner car, with its original factory paint is ready for a second life with a new owner. Zoom Zoom

Contact: Steve Sabella, 315-254-8518 or smsabella@yahoo.com

2006 Mazda Miata Grand Touring



- Original Owner
- Approximately 62,000 miles
- Marble white with tan leather interior and tan cloth top; matching Cocomats custom floor mats
- Engine: 2.0 liter; 166 hp; 4 cylinder
- Automatic transmission with paddle shifters
- Tire pressure monitoring system (TPMS)
- Power windows, door locks, mirrors
- Bose AM / FM / CD player
- Remote keyless entry
- Front and rear splash guards
- 17" wheels with Michelin Pilot Sport All Season 4 tires (Approximately 8,700 miles; 45,000 mile warranty)
- All standard safety features including dual front airbags, side impact airbags and antitheft engine immobilizer
- All maintenance records available; meticulously maintained; no winters
- Indoor car cover; stored winters in winter storage bag (See www.carbag.com)
- Asking \$12,000. Contact Paul Shubmehl at paulshub@twcny.rr.com or 315-415-3896.

Kenwood TK-3200 (LMR) UHF radio

The opportunity to be more in-the-loop during your next club drive! Kenwood TK-3200 (LMR) UHF radio with Li-Po battery pack, charger and operating manual. Like new condition. Club frequency pre-set on Channel-1. Thoroughly tested and ready to go, \$75.00 (plus shipping if necessary). Contact: Bill Lowe, 585-865-6158 or blowe0542@gmail.com.



Flyin' Miata Gas Pedal Extension



\$20 plus \$10 Shipping & Handling. Will deliver to a club event. Contact: Bill Krause, WillRevRacing@yahoo.com, 315-952-2319

Set of 4 wheels and tires from a 2025 MX-5 Grand Touring

\$1000 O.B.O. Expected delivery March/April 2025. Local pickup only Liverpool N.Y. Contact: Bill Krause WillRevRacing@yahoo.com 315-952-2319



Miata ND3 Jinba Ittai License Plate Frame

Aluminum with white primer, yellow face and blue letters. \$20.00, \$10 Shipping & Handling each. Will deliver to a club event. Contact: Bill Krause, WillRevRacing@yahoo.com, 315-952-2319.

Member Stories

Are you interested in telling your story? Club members have many interests. We are always interested in learning about things that you are doing. I know that there are many great stories out there! Send it along to Lisa Cantone at lisacantone@gmail.com.

- Any interesting Miata story
- Your favorite route
- A trip that lasted a week or more
- An upgrade that improved your Miata
- Your other car (toy)
- A repair you did
- How you volunteer your time
- Other hobbies or interests you have

Let's put our thinking caps on and start writing a piece!

Leadership Team

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Area Rep - Rochester	Nancy Lowe	585-305-4410	nanlowe53@gmail.com
Area Rep - Ithaca	Gail Wagner	607-257-7445	gwtr3red@gmail.com

Club Information

Website: Our Club has a [website](#). It also works on your phone!

Facebook: Our Club is also on [Facebook](#). There is a lot of information here, and there are updates most days.

YouTube: Our Club has a [YouTube channel](#). Take a look, like, and subscribe!

Favorite Car Shops, Part Stores, Service Centers, and Stuff: The list is [here](#). Send additions and updates to **Karen McKissock for the near future**.

Deadlines: Submissions for the newsletter are due on the 24th of each month.

Events: When advertising your event, include details! Write it as an advertisement and remember to include that date, and rain date if applicable, deadlines, the meeting location, including address, and time, the distance of the drive, and maybe a photo or two. It does not need to be long but should include everything to encourage participation!

Flyer: You can print the [Club Brochure](#); it is a trifold with Club information and an application form. There is a short form for returning members.

Registration: To help gather the list of who is attending our events, we will require members to contact the Event Coordinator directly AND copy your Area Representative. You will only need to respond if you are planning to attend, but if you need to cancel at the last minute you need to let both the Event Coordinator and Area Representative know so they do not hold up the ride waiting for you. Please pay close attention to the contact information and **deadlines**. When an accurate or advanced headcount is required, please do not just show up for an event. Register ahead of time with the Event Coordinator and your Area Representative.

Guest Waiver: Here is the [guest waiver form](#). If you bring a guest, you must print, complete, and give it to the Area Representative or Event Coordinator. Just one part.

Rules: [Caravan Rules](#) to consider before the event. We suggest you bring sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, or a visor. Be sure you have a full tank of gas, and your bladder is empty.

Reports: You should include what people enjoyed in your post-event report. Everyone enjoys hearing about the people and seeing people in or standing next to their Miata/ MX-5s.

Hosting Events: For the more experienced people, here is a [shorter checklist](#). Would you like to host an event? Not sure where to start? We have written this guide and have mentors who will help you. Ask about our "Beginners Guide to Route Planning."