

**Wheels:** Paul writes, “I have a 1998 Chevy Astro van with 35,000 miles on it. It has a 4.3 L engine. Every time it rains, the first time I start it up, there is a bad miss in the engine until I drive it for 10 to 15 minutes and the engine warms up. Then the miss disappears. I replaced the spark plug wires. This didn’t eliminate the problem. The “check engine light” never comes on. This only happens after it rains. What could be causing this engine miss?”

**Halderman:** The most common cause of your problem is defective spark plug wires and you indicated that replacing them did not make any difference. The distributor cap and rotor could also cause the problem, as well as the ignition coil itself. Have the spark plugs been replaced? If not, then I would recommend this as the first step because a cracked spark plug could be the cause of the engine miss.

