Environmental Health and Safety

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Summer Car Safety

During the summer months, your vehicle can become an unsafe place when the weather is hot. It is important to be aware of how to keep your car from overheating, the dangers of keeping a pet in the car, and how to stay safely hydrated.

How to Keep Your Car from Overheating

- Keep the interior of your car cool by using a windshield screen.
- Coolant should be used instead of water.
- Have your coolant checked each time you get your oil changed.
- If your car starts running hot or starts making a bubbling sound, pull over immediately. Driving an overheated car can ruin the engine.
- If you check your own coolant, be sure to tighten the radiator cap. This allows the coolant to expand and contract.

/EHICLE TEMPERATUR		
OUTSIDE TEMP (F)	INSIDE TEMP (F)	
	10 MINS	30 MINS
70°	86.	104°
75°	94°	109°
80°	99°	114°
85°	104°	119°
90°	109°	124°
95°	114°	129°

Pets in Cars

Never leave an animal in a parked car on a hot day. Even with windows down, it only takes 10 minutes for the temperature in a car to raise from 85 degrees to 102 degrees.

Drinking Water

- Keep plenty of water in your vehicle so you and passengers can stay hydrated on hot days.
- Drink more water to ensure your body can properly regulate temperature.
- Keep water in safe reusable containers to avoid possible contaminants from bottled water.

Resources

Water Bottles in Hot Cars

More Water in Hot Weather

Keep Car from Overheating

Keep Pets Safe in the Heat

What to do if You See a Pet in a Parked Car

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