

Safety Alert

From the LEG HSE Department

Don't Start a Fire With Your Vehicle

Due to the extreme conditions in some areas such as low humidity, extended periods of drought, high temperatures and high winds, extreme caution should be taken while parking your vehicle in the field. For the most part, driving a vehicle is included in all of our daily work activities so please make sure that your daily activities are not the cause of a vehicle fire and/or wildfire.

Did You Know?

Motorists are responsible for many of the truck/wildfires along our fields and roadsides. Nearly all these fires could be prevented by following some basic safety rules.

What part of the vehicle could start a fire?

- By far, the #1 threat is the vehicle's catalytic converter, which can reach temperatures of **1,200° to 1,400° Fahrenheit**.

Why is that a concern?

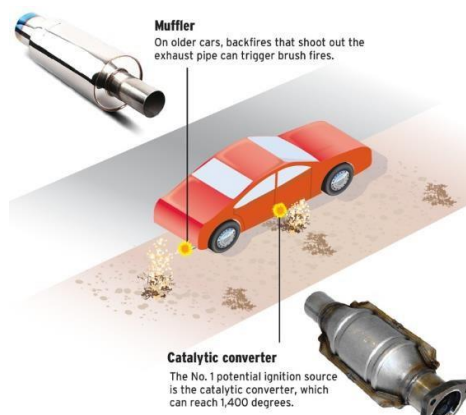
- The catalytic converter and exhaust system are exposed underneath the vehicle. If a driver were to pull off the side of a highway into an area with grass or weeds, the converter could easily ignite dry vegetation.

What about big trucks?

- Very large vehicles such as big rigs can cause fires when their brakes overheat. If drivers pull over because of the problem, the superheated brakes can set fire to dry vegetation.

What about vehicles towing trailers?

- People who pull trailers sometimes do not secure their towing chains properly, leaving loose chains to bounce off concrete and shower sparks into brush.



Practicing Vehicle Safety- Proper Vehicle Use to Prevent Wildfires

- Do not throw cigarette or cigar butts on the ground or out of a vehicle. Dispose of them properly and make sure they are completely extinguished.
- If your vehicle becomes stuck, do not try to free the vehicle to the point the frame of truck is nearly/setting on the ground. (Call for assistance)
- Avoid parking your vehicle in tall grass. (Or any tall dry vegetation). When pulling on to a shoulder or into locations, try to find a non-grassy area to park your vehicle.
- Reduce the risk from sparks by being sure nothing is dragging from your vehicle or trailer such as chains.

