

HOT CAR

MYTHS

STAY SAFE IN THE SUMMER HEAT

As temperatures heat up this summer remember- so will your vehicle. The more you know about hot cars, the better you will be able to stay safe in the heat. Here are 8 common misconceptions about vehicles in high temperatures.



1. IT'S ONLY 10 MINUTES, KIDS & PETS WILL BE FINE

The internal temperature of your vehicle can reach dangerous levels quickly. In just 10 minutes it can rise 20 degrees. Never leave kids or pets in your car, for any amount of time.

2. LEAVE THE WINDOWS CRACKED TO KEEP YOUR CAR COOL

Surprisingly, there is just about a 2-degree difference between a closed window and one that's cracked open. Plus, a slightly open window can be an invitation to car thieves.

3. SAVE MONEY BY NOT USING THE A/C

While blasting the A/C will slightly increase gas usage, it's not enough that you would even notice. And rolling your windows down at high speeds can also reduce your fuel economy.

4. ONLY BAD PARENTS FORGET THEIR KIDS IN HOT CARS

You might assume that parents who forget their children are with them are bad parents. That's not always the case. It could easily happen to anyone. Take the proper precautions so it won't happen to you.

5. YOU NEED TO FILL UP YOUR GAS TANK IN THE MORNING

The energy content of gasoline stays the same in varying temperatures, plus filling stations store their gas in underground tanks. So, no matter what time you get gas, you will be getting the same bang for your buck.

6. IF ITS TOO HOT, YOUR WINDOWS CAN SHATTER

Unless your windshield has previous damage, you don't have to worry about the glass shattering. But if the conditions are right, it could crack. Glass will expand when it's hot and contract when it's cold. Big swings in temperature can cause these cracks

7. YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING IF YOUR CAR OVERHEATS

You will need to take action to avoid engine damage. Turn on your heat, pull to a safe location, shut off your vehicle, monitor your gauges, add coolant, and take it to a mechanic.

8. THE HEAT WON'T HAVE A LASTING EFFECT ON YOUR CAR

Excessive heat can affect your car in the long term. Hot air in your tires causes them to expand and battery fluid can also evaporate, which will weaken batteries or speed up the corrosion process.

