



THE OTHER 28 DAYS

July 2026



July brings hot temperatures and increased outdoor activity, making it important to stay hydrated and watch for signs of heat stress. With Fourth of July celebrations adding fireworks and cookouts to the mix, it's a great time to review summer safety practices and stay vigilant.



Hot Weather Vehicle Safety

Summer travel can put extra strain on your vehicle. Heat-related mechanical failures account for 18.6% of all non-collision roadside assistance calls between June and August. Performing simple checks on your vehicle during hot weather can help prevent heat-related breakdowns.

Tire Tread & Pressure: Check your tires monthly and before long road trips. Tread should be at least 4/32 on all tires. Check for cracks, cuts, bulges or punctures, and uneven wear.

Battery Health: Check your battery for corrosion, secure connections, and proper charge levels.

Coolant & Fluid Levels: Low or degraded fluids can lead to overheating and heat-related breakdowns. Checking the coolant, oil, brake, power steering, and windshield washer levels can help keep your vehicle running smoothly during the hot summer temperatures.

Children and Pets: Children and pets should never be left inside a vehicle. Rolling down windows or parking in the shade does little to change the interior temperature of the vehicle. Always check the backseat before locking your vehicle.

Vacation Prep

Prepare your home for summer travel by securing entry points, managing lights and appliances, and ensuring the house appears lived-in while you're away. Empty homes become easier targets, increasing the possibility of a break-in.

Secure Your Home: If traveling, use timers on lights, lock all doors and windows (including garage), pause mail delivery, and ask a neighbor to monitor your home.

Fire Prevention: Unplug unnecessary appliances to reduce fire risk and save energy. Maintain HVAC units—clean filters and clear surrounding vegetation—to prevent overheating.

Secure Valuables: Secure valuables and important documents in a safe or hidden location. Avoid leaving items in plain sight where they could be visible through a window.

Fireworks Safety

Fourth of July celebrations light up the sky with fireworks, bringing communities together for a bright and festive holiday tradition. Enjoy fireworks safely and responsibly by staying alert and always checking local laws before lighting up the night.

Safety Zone: Only use fireworks in open, clear areas away from buildings, dry grass, and spectators.

Water Source: Keep a bucket of water or hose nearby, and fully soak used fireworks before disposing of them.

Alcohol: Never mix alcohol and fireworks—staying sober helps you stay alert, in control, and able to react safely.

Child Safety: Supervise children when they are handling sparklers. Remember sparklers burn at about 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Always follow the instructions on the package.



Stay alert and celebrate smart to keep July safe for everyone.

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