



Where There's Smoke: Be Prepared For Fire Prevention

October 9th is Fire Prevention Day. While most people have a fire plan for their home, it is also critical to have a plan for your Corvette. Mid America Motorworks has compiled some tips and reminders to keep you safe if disaster strikes.

Fire Safety

According to the National Fire Protection Association, the most common cause of vehicle fires is a mechanical or electrical issue. Newer Corvettes that experience fires are more likely to be caused by an electrical issue, while early Corvettes are more likely to experience fire due to mechanical issues. Cars can also catch fire because of a bad accident. If you see smoke or flames coming from a Corvette, or smell burning rubber or plastic, respond immediately.

Prevent A Corvette Fire

Preparation is key! Follow these guidelines to avoid trouble:

- Have your car serviced regularly by a professionally trained mechanic. If you spot leaks, your car is not running properly. Get it checked. A well-maintained car is less likely to have a fire.
- If you must transport gasoline, transport only a small amount in a certified gas can that is sealed. Keep a window open for ventilation.
- Gas cans and propane cylinders should never be transported in the passenger compartment.
- Never park a car where flammables, such as grass, are touching the catalytic converter.
- Disconnect the battery during long periods of storage.
- Drive safely to avoid an accident.





- Keep fire safety devices handy. A small fire extinguisher can easily fit into the limited space in a Corvette. There are even extinguishers specifically designed for one-time, automotive use. Be aware of the expiration date on your extinguisher.

If it has been awhile since your Corvette was serviced, there are some danger signs you can look for:

- Cracked or loose wiring or electrical problems, including a fuse that blows more than once.
- Oil or fluid leaks
- Oil cap not on securely
- Rapid changes in fuel or fluid level, or engine temperature

In the event that your Corvette does catch fire, try to keep calm and follow these tips:

- Pull over as quickly as it is safe to do so. Be sure to use your signal as you make your way to a safe location off the road.
- Once you have stopped, **TURN OFF** the engine.
- Get everyone out of the car. **NEVER** return to a burning car for any reason.
- Move everyone at least 100 feet from the burning car and well away from traffic.
- Call 9-1-1

Regular maintenance and a few easy steps are all you need to keep your Corvette safe!

