



If you don't have a Fire Extinguisher in your vehicle, maybe you should read this...

Wheeling at Uwharrie today we had some major problems. My friend was in his '89 Bronco and I was in my S-10 when we were heading up Falls Dam. We stopped because it looked like his engine was overheating. Smoke was coming from under the hood. He shut the engine off and was about to open the hood when my other friend with me saw fire dripping from the engine. We yelled at him to get away because we didn't have fire extinguishers. The next thing we knew the smoke got a lot bigger and fire was pouring out of the engine compartment. The vehicle was turned off yet the fog lights were blinking on and off and the starter began to act up. The vehicle was trying to turn on with nobody in it and with it turned off. We don't know how it happened but there was a lot of fire. We instantly called 911 and told them that a vehicle was on fire and we were about to have a huge forest fire if they didn't hurry up. By that time the flames were like 20 feet in the air and we were freaking out because there was nothing we could do about it. My friend poured his whole life savings into the Bronco - new headers, new flowmasters, dual K&N intake, incredible sound system, rebuilt engine, bored 30 over, body in perfect condition. All he could do was sit there and watch it burn up. We called 911 like 3 or 4 more times because about 20 or 30 minutes had gone by and nobody had arrived. All they could tell us was that they dispatched everybody that they had and they couldn't make it up the trails. They said they were waiting on the forest rangers to arrive to take them up to the fire. By this time about 45 minutes had passed and we started walking down the trail and ran into a ranger on the way up to the fire. He was by himself on foot and really couldn't help us, even though he knew the situation and what was going on. He assessed the situation and about 30 minutes later some firemen arrived on ATVs and such. They started raking around the fire so that it wouldn't spread anymore. The police took a report and said they would get the Bronco off of the trail tomorrow for a fee if we couldn't do it ourselves. Since there was nothing left of the Bronco - no tires, no wheels, no anything, we told them that we'd pay the fee. It burned for about an hour and a half and there is nothing left. We were lucky nobody got hurt and the fire didn't spread even more. I included some of the pictures that we took. There is about 4 or 5 of them...it's insane. Hope you guys have better luck than we did.