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Date: 7/31/2006 4:21:39 PM
Subject: How hot can it get inside a vehicle?

Folks...help get the word out...about not leaving kids and pets in locked vehicles in full sunshine...it can be 40 degree warmer in a vehicle compared to the outside temperature...do the math....please read below. ..Rusty

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PUBLIC INFORMATION STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE MILWAUKEE/SULLIVAN WI
332 PM CDT MON JUL 31 2006

...DEADLY TEMPERATURES CAN BE REACHED QUICKLY IN VEHICLES...

AN UNSCIENTIFIC EXPERIMENT WAS CONDUCTED AT THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE FORECAST OFFICE NEAR SULLIVAN TODAY...MONDAY JULY 31 2006. THE OBJECT WAS TO DETERMINE HOW QUICKLY AN AUTOMOBILE WOULD HEAT UP TO LEVELS THAT WOULD POSE A HEALTH HAZARD TO CHILDREN AND PETS LEFT IN A VEHICLE WITH THE AIR CONDITIONER TURNED OFF.

IT WAS A SUNNY DAY. THE AUTOMOBILE WAS PARKED WITH THE SUN TO THE REAR...AND THE FRONT DRIVER AND PASSENGER COMPARTMENT WAS SHADED FROM THE DIRECT RAYS OF THE SUN. THE AUTOMOBILE WAS DARK BLUE...SO IT PROBABLY ABSORBED HEAT QUICKER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY THAN A LIGHT COLORED VEHICLE.

THE SIMPLIFIED EXPERIMENT CONSISTED OF PUTTING AN ELECTRONIC THERMOMETER INSIDE A CLOSED AUTOMOBILE...AND ONE OUTSIDE OF THE VEHICLE...TO MEASURE AMBIENT TEMPERATURE IN THE SHADE. WE THEN COMPARED THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR READS AGAINST EACH OTHER AT TIMED INCREMENTS.

WITH THE AUTOMOBILE COOLED TO 83 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT BY THE VEHICLE AIR CONDITIONER...THE ENGINE WAS TURNED OFF AND THE MONITORING WAS STARTED AT 1245 PM CDT. AFTER ONLY TEN MINUTES...THE AUTOMOBILE INTERIOR HEATED TO A DEADLY 119 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT...WHILE THE OUTSIDE TEMPERATURE WAS A DANGEROUS 92 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

HERE ARE THE RESULTS OF WHAT WE OBSERVED OVER THE NEXT FEW HOURS...

TIME CDT	INTERIOR TEMPERATURE DEGREES FAHRENHEIT	AMBIENT TEMPERATURE DEGREES FAHRENHEIT
1245 PM	83	92
100 PM	120	93
115 PM	123	94
130 PM	125	93
145 PM	127	94
200 PM	129	94

215 PM	130	95
230 PM	131	95
245 PM	132	95
300 PM	133	95
315 PM	134	95
330 PM	134	95

THUS...WHEN HOT TEMPERATURES OCCUR...IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOT LEAVE CHILDREN OR PETS IN PARKED VEHICLES...EVEN FOR SHORT PERIODS OF TIME. AS THIS UNSCIENTIFIC STUDY SHOWED...TEMPERATURES CAN REACH DEADLY LEVELS IN A MATTER OF MINUTES.

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SCHAAR/WOOD