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CSLB #20-20

## Contractors State License Board Encourages Contractors to Take Special Care of Vehicles During Wildfire Season

**SACRAMENTO** – The California Contractors State License Board (CSLB) is encouraging licensed contractors to pay special attention to their outdoor construction vehicles during our current wildfire season. Ash and smoke from wildfires can settle on work vehicles and damage the exterior paint, especially vehicles parked outside for long periods of time. Dirty air filters can also affect the vehicle’s performance and potentially be harmful to drivers and passengers.

California’s Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) and AAA says you should remember the following tips when maintaining your vehicle(s):

- Do not let ash and soot sit on a vehicle for long periods of time. It can eat away at the vehicle’s paint and clear coat.
- Be careful when you wash or wipe down your vehicle. Use only a soft cloth or duster. Ash and soot are more abrasive than regular dirt and can scratch the vehicle’s surface as you try to wipe it away.
- If you wash your own vehicle, rinse first with water and then wash thoroughly with soap, and dry completely.
- Take your vehicle(s) to a BAR-licensed auto repair shop and have them inspect and, if necessary, replace the engine and cabin air filters. Find a licensed auto repair shop near you using BAR’s [Auto Shop Locator](#) at [bar.ca.gov](http://bar.ca.gov).
- It is also a good time to check and change wiper blades.
- Keep your vehicles in a garage or warehouse or use a car cover whenever possible.

“Vehicles are one of a contractor’s biggest investments,” said CSLB Registrar David Fogt. “Paying attention to extra maintenance now can help keep you and your employees safe and can save you from extra vehicle repairs down the road.”

To limit exposure to the hazardous air around California, we encourage contractors use our online services at [cslb.ca.gov](http://cslb.ca.gov) as well as our automated phone line at 800-321-CSLB (2752) whenever possible.

Contractors can stay up-to-date on CSLB news by visiting [CSLB's website](#) and following us on [Facebook](#).

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