

Parking and Fire Safety taking it to the streets

Fire spreads fast! Don't let your parking slow us down!

Fire trucks are bigger than most trucks because of the equipment we need to carry. We ask that you don't park in the street unless it is at least **26 feet wide**. If it is wide enough, don't park directly across from someone else on the street. When you do park on the street hug the curb as close as you can, so we can spend time providing medical care or fighting fires instead of traffic. **Fire trucks require 20 feet of unobstructed roadway clearance to operate.**

For example, a cardiac arrest requires nearly instant response. According to the American Red Cross, brain damage can occur within 4 to 6 minutes after cardiac arrest. After a cardiac arrest, survival chances decrease by 10% for each minute defibrillation and CPR is delayed. Strokes are also a critically time sensitive medical emergency. Time lost is brain lost.



The outriggers spread almost 20 feet wide, if cars were parked here we would have big problems using the aerial ladder to rescue someone or fight fire.



A similar urgency holds true for fire emergencies. Fires reach a critical point called flashover at 6 to 9 minutes after a fire starts. Temperatures can exceed 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit. Prior to flashover, fires are more easily extinguished with less effort and water. Once a flashover occurs, the chances of safe evacuation decrease, and property damage becomes much greater. Rapid, unobstructed arrival is crucial to saving lives and property.

There have even been times when the fire truck had to back out or turn around and take an alternate route delaying arrival to the emergency. So please don't let your vehicle be the reason your home or a neighbor's home is lost, or someone dies!

Remember!

**If your car is in the street,
we need 20 feet!**



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