

Steam Cleaning Tires

CAUTION: Steam cleaning can damage a tire and render it unserviceable.

At many businesses throughout the United States, it is common practice to use “steam cleaning equipment” to wash trucks and tires.

Nozzle temperature on steam cleaning equipment typically reaches 280°F.

When a steam cleaning nozzle is held too close to the sidewall of a tire for as short a time as 45 seconds, a small spongy blister may appear on the sidewall. When this blister is cut open, one will observe reverted rubber resulting from the excessive localized heat.

Steam cleaning of tires can be harmful to tires when the nozzle is concentrated in one spot for a period of time.