

## Extinguisher Safety Tips

*Always keep an exit to your back and never attempt to use an extinguisher on a fire that could block your exit. Never go past a fire to get an extinguisher. If the extinguisher malfunctions or fails to extinguish the fire, evacuate the building immediately. Never go in search of a second extinguisher. Always contact University Police to send the fire department, even if the fire has been extinguished. All fires no matter how small must be reported to and checked by the fire department. Know the location of fire extinguishers and evacuation routes for your building.*

For more information on fire safety contact the Safety & Workers' Compensation Office at 828-262-4007.

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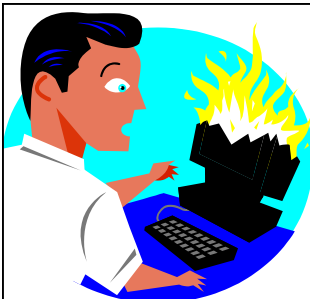
# Appalachian State University

## *Guide To Using Portable Fire Extinguishers*



## **Always Put Your Safety First. Buildings And Contents Can Be Replaced, You Can't.**

When used properly, fire extinguishers can save lives and property by putting out or containing a small fire until the fire department arrives. However, fire extinguishers are not designed for use on large or spreading fires. Extinguishers are for use on incipient stage fires only. As a general rule, DO NOT attempt to use an extinguisher on any fire which is larger than a small trash can. Fire doubles in size every minute, so never re-enter a building/area for belongings or spend precious time searching for a fire extinguisher. If the fire has progressed beyond the incipient stage DO NOT attempt to extinguish it, evacuate the building immediately.



### **If You Discover A Fire:**

Activate the fire alarm system immediately. Report the fire to University Police by dialing 8000, University Police will contact Boone Fire Department. Have others evacuate the building.

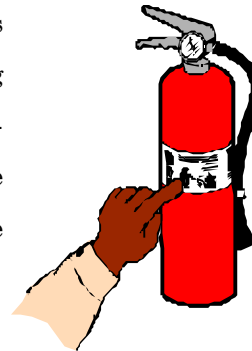
### **Use An Extinguisher Only If:**

It would not place you in any immediate danger. The Fire is in the incipient stage (trash can size or smaller). You know how to use an extinguisher and feel comfortable doing so.

### **Fire Extinguisher Types & Fuel**

#### **Classifications:**

Different types of extinguishers are designed for different types of fires. Every extinguisher should have a label which identifies what type of fire it's designed for use on. Always make sure that the type extinguisher is appropriate for the type of materials which are burning. Using the wrong type of extinguisher could make the fire worse or place the user in danger.



**Type A** – Ordinary combustibles, such as wood, cloth, paper, rubber and plastics.

**Type B** – Flammable liquids, such as gasoline, diesel fuel, oil, grease, tar, oil based paints and lacquers.

**Type C** – Energized electrical equipment including wiring, computer equipment, machinery, electrical panels, and appliances.

**Type D** – Combustible metals, such as magnesium.

**Type K** – Specifically designed for use on deep fat fryer oils used in commercial kitchens.

### **The PASS Method Of Using A Fire Extinguisher:**

- P** - Pull the pin
- A** - Aim at the base of the fire
- S** - Squeeze the handle
- S** - Sweep the nozzle from side to side

*Practice Fire Safety Every Day!*

