



Fire Extinguishers

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the [Occupational Safety web page](#).

General Information

Fire extinguishers are an excellent tool for putting out fires and reducing damage caused if they are used properly by trained users.

Classes of Fires

- Class A fires involve combustible solids such as wood or paper as fuel
- Class B fires involve flammable liquids such as gasoline as fuel
- Class C fires ignite from energized electrical equipment such as faulty wiring or fuse box
- Class D fires involve combustible metals like titanium or potassium as fuel
- Class K fires involve grease or oil as fuel and typically occur in kitchens

Types of Extinguishers

- ABC extinguishers are the most common type on campus
 - Used on class A, B, and C fires
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) extinguishers are found near high value equipment
 - Used on class B and C fires
- Wet Chemical extinguishers are found in commercial kitchens
 - Used on class K fires to create a barrier between the fuel and air

Safe Extinguisher Use

- Extinguishers should only be used if:
 - user is not in danger
 - user has an exit route
 - user has been trained
 - fire is small
 - 911 has been called
 - fire alarm is pulled
- Use the correct extinguisher for the class of fire present
- Use of an extinguisher is not required

Use the P. A. S. S. method

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



Discussion Date:

Supervisor:

Participants: