

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

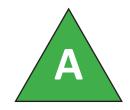
RISK REMINDER

PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS



Facts About Fire Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are great for putting out small fires - but only if you use the right one. The wrong extinguisher can make a fire worse. There are five kinds of fire extinguishers.



Type A (green label) for fires involving:

▲ wood

paper

▲ cloth ▲ rubbish В

Type B (red label) for fires involving flammable gases/liquids, including:

gasoline

solvents

vapors

gas leaks



Type C (blue label),for:

electrical fires



Type D (yellow label), for fires involving combustible metals, such as:

☆ magnesium

☆ sodium

★ potassium

★ sodium potassium alloys

How to Use a Fire Extinguisher

Knowing how to use a fire extinguisher before you're confronted with a fire is one of the best ways to prevent an emergency. Before you use an extinguisher, consider the following:

Is the fire small and contained?

Are you 6 to 10 feet from the blaze with your back to a safe exit?

Do you have the right type of extinguisher for the type of fire?

Here's How to Use a Portable Fire Extinguisher:

- 1. Pull the safety pin.
- 2. Stand about 8 feet from the fire.
- 3. Aim at the base of the fire.
- 4. Squeeze the trigger.
- 5. Use a back and forth sweeping motion.
- 6. Aim accurately; fire extinguishers may only last from about 3 to 20 seconds.
- 7. Use a fire extinguisher only if the fire is small and easily contained.

