

Fire Safety

Week Number 50 (December 10 - 16) 2017 Edition

Fire Safety is an important part of every workplace safety and health program.

Elements of the Fire Triangle

- Oxygen
- Heat Source
- Fuel

Four Classes of fires common in the workplace

- Class A Fire: Involves fires of ordinary combustibles such as paper, cardboard, wood and plastics.
- Class B Fire: Involves fires of flammable liquids such as fuels, paints and solvents.
- Class C Fire: Involves fires of electrical equipment such as overloaded circuits, motors, switches and wiring.
- Class D Fire: Involves fire of combustible metals such as, but not limited to, sodium, lithium, titanium, magnesium and potassium.

Remember to recharge all discharged fire extinguishers. Fire Extinguishers must be inspected monthly.

When utilizing a fire extinguisher to extinguish a fire the following must be considered.

- Has the fire alarm been activated?
- Have all occupants been evacuated from the affected area?
- Do I have a clear path to the nearest exit?
- Have I been trained in the use of a portable fire extinguisher?
- If yes, then extinguish fire utilizing the PASS method. ♦ P - Pull Pin
 - ♦ A - Aim low at the base of the fire
 - ♦ S - Squeeze the lever of the extinguisher
 - ♦ S - Sweep from side to side until fire is extinguished or extinguisher has emptied

Questions

1. What are some fire hazards that you have seen on job sites, and what can be done to prevent them in the future?
2. Why is it important to know the different types of fire extinguishers and their respective uses?