



SUB-TOPIC

FIRE PREVENTION, Continued

A. Reporting of Fires: Report all fires. Many fires that were considered out have restarted!

Remove people from danger of the fire.

Alert help by calling "911" and activating the fire alarm system.

Contain the fire's location by closing doors.

Extinguish the fire if possible and if you feel comfortable doing so.

B. Use of Fire Extinguishers: Even though University facilities are equipped with alarms (and sprinkler systems in selected areas), a need still exists for portable fire extinguishers accessible and ready for emergency use. Fire extinguishers are located in all public areas, mechanical rooms, and laboratories and are serviced regularly to ensure proper operating standards are maintained.

Most of the fire extinguishers on campus are of the Multiple ABC Class. This allows the individual using the extinguisher the confidence of knowing that they are using the correct extinguisher for the appropriate fire. The only exceptions to this are in certain laboratories that have combustible metals (Class D) and selected areas that have halon fire extinguishers for protection of very delicate equipment. NOTE: Halon extinguishers will be phased out over the next few years due to the current ban on the production of the halon product.

Fire extinguishers are easy to use and hands-on training is offered by the Safety Office. When using an extinguisher, remember to use the PASS method.

P Pull the pin from the extinguisher and have your back to an exit!

A Aim the extinguisher at the base of the fire that is about 5 to 7 feet away from you.

S Squeeze the handle of the extinguisher.

S Sweep the base of the fire.

Be aware that the extinguisher has a very limited amount of extinguishing agent in it and may only last for as little as eight (8) seconds. The actual discharging time depends on the size of the extinguisher.

