Extinguisher Safety Tips

Know the locations of fire extinguishers and evacuation routes for your building.

When using an extinguisher, do not let the fire come between you and your exit. Keep an exit at your back for quick escape.

Don’t go past the fire to get an extinguisher and if the extinguisher malfunctions or fails to put out the fire, evacuate the building immediately. Do not go in search of a second extinguisher.

All fires no matter how small, must be reported to and checked by Boone Fire Department, even if the fire has been extinguished.

For more information on fire safety contact the Office of Environmental Health, Safety and Emergency Management at 828-262-4007.

Appalachian State University
Guide To Using Portable Fire Extinguishers

Appalachian State University is committed to providing equal opportunity in education and employment to all applicants, students, and employees. The university does not discriminate in access to its educational programs and activities, or with respect to hiring or the terms and conditions of employment, on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, gender identity and expression, political affiliation, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation. The university actively promotes diversity among students and employees.
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 and should be used 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. If in doubt, evacuate.

If You Discover A Fire:
Immediately activate the fire alarm system. Report the fire to Boone Fire Department by dialing 911 or 9-911 (from campus phones) Have others evacuate the building.

Use An Extinguisher Only If:
- It does not place you in 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