Fire Extinguishers

When used properly, fire extinguishers can be life and property saving.

Types of Fire Extinguishers

- **A** puts out fires in ordinary combustibles such as cloth, wood, rubber, paper, and many plastics.
- **B** extinguishers are to be used on fires involving flammable liquids such as grease, gasoline, oil, and oil-based paints.
- **C** suitable for electrical fires (e.g., fires involving appliances, tools, or other equipment that is plugged in).
- **D** used for combustible industrial metals.

**PASS** the test using your extinguisher:

- Pull the pin at the top of the extinguisher that keeps the handle from being accidentally pressed.
- **Aim** the nozzle toward the base of the fire, standing approximately 8-feet away.
- **Squeeze** the handle to discharge the extinguisher. If you release the handle, the discharge will stop.
- **Sweep** the nozzle back and forth at the base of the fire.

**Use a fire extinguisher only if:**

- You have alerted other occupants and someone has called the fire department.
- The fire is small and contained to a single object, such as a wastebasket.
- You are safe from the toxic smoke produced by the fire.
- You have a means of escape identified and the fire is not between you and the escape route.
- Your instincts tell you that it is safe to use an extinguisher.

**Only use an extinguisher if ALL of these points apply.**

When in doubt, just get out!