

If You **Fight** A **Fire** Remember The **Word....**

P.A.S.S.
(**P**ull, **A**im, **S**queeze, **S**weep)

Learn how and when
to use a fire extinguisher
before an emergency
and always keep your fire
extinguisher fully charged!

When **NOT** to fight a fire...

- If the fire could block your only exit!
- If the fire is spreading too quickly!
- If the type or size of the extinguisher is wrong!
- If the fire is too large!
- If you don't know how to use your fire extinguisher!

**If any of the above
conditions exist
leave immediately!!**

To schedule a
**FREE HOME FIRE
SAFETY INSPECTION**

Contact Fire & Life Safety
Officer Alan Shaver at
828.692.2581 x102

VALLEY HILL STATION LOCATIONS

Headquarters: 1675 Willow Road
Station 2: 458 Crab Creek Road
Station 3: 205 Gateway Drive
Station 4: 1914 Brevard Road

TEN TIPS ON HOW & WHEN TO USE A



FIRE EXTINGUISHER

828.692.2581



www.valleyhillfire.com

**Mailing Address: PO Box 726
Hendersonville, NC 28793**



Do You Know “How and When To Use A Fire Extinguisher?”

10 IMPORTANT RULES TO REMEMBER

1. Most fires start small. Except for explosions, fires can usually be brought under control if they are attacked correctly with the right type and size of extinguisher within the first two minutes!
2. A fire extinguisher should be “listed and labeled” by an independent testing laboratory. The higher the rating number on an A or B extinguisher, the more fire it can put out. Be careful, high-rated units are often heavier models. Make sure you can hold and operate the model you are buying.

			Suitable for Class B and Class C fires but not Class A
			Suitable for Class A fires but not Class B or Class C
			Suitable for Class A and Class B fires but not Class C

3. A portable fire extinguisher can save lives and property by putting out a small fire or containing it until the fire department arrives. Before attempting to fight a small fire be sure everyone is out of the building. It is important to have someone call the fire department. If the fire starts to spread or threatens your escape path, get out immediately!

4. The operator must know how to use the extinguisher quickly, without taking the time to read the instructions during an emergency. Remember that extinguishers need care and must be recharged after every use.

If you fight a fire remember the word **P.A.S.S.** These are the four basic steps to using a fire extinguisher.

Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep

5. **Pull** the pin. Some extinguishers require a locking latch, pressing a puncture lever or other motion. Place the extinguisher on the floor. Hold it by the tank (pressure on the handle could pinch the pin). Pull the pin straight out.
6. **Aim** low, start 10 feet back from the fire. Point the extinguisher nozzle (or it’s horn or hose) at the base of the fire.

7. **Squeeze** the handle. This releases the extinguishing agent.

8. **Sweep** from side to side at the base of the fire until it appears to be out. Watch the fire area in case the fire breaks out again, and repeat use of the extinguisher if necessary.

9. Most portable extinguishers work according to these directions, but some do not. Read and follow the directions on your extinguisher.



If you have the slightest doubt about whether or not to fight a fire – **DON’T!** Get out and close the door behind you.

Types of Extinguishers

Fire extinguishers are rated by the type of fire they can put out. It is important to choose the proper fire extinguisher for each fire. Fire extinguishers are labeled with letters and/or pictures to indicate the type of fire on which the extinguisher is effective.

A Ordinary Combustibles Fire
Paper, wood, plastics, fabric, rubber, trash

B Flammable Liquids Fire
Gasoline, oil, grease, some paints and solvents

C Electrical Fire
energized electrical equipment; appliances, computers, circuit breakers, wiring

A combination **ABC Dry Chemical** extinguisher can be used on more than one type of fire, and is a good choice for home use.

10. Ask your fire department about training and practice in the use of portable fire extinguishers. Many departments offer training sessions to the public.