

## Knowing how to safely use and maintain a fire extinguisher is crucial for fire safety and can protect lives and minimize damage to property!

### How to Safely Use a Fire Extinguisher



1. Only use a fire extinguisher for small fires that can be easily controlled. If a fire is spreading or producing thick smoke, evacuate immediately and call **9-1-1**. If you have the *slightest* doubt about your ability to fight a fire, **EVACUATE IMMEDIATELY!**
2. Protect yourself! Always have an escape route plan and avoid inhaling smoke.
3. Know the **PASS** Technique for a fire extinguisher:
  - P**ull the pin to break the tamper seal
  - A**im the nozzle at the base of the fire (not the flames)
  - S**queeze the handle to release the extinguishing agent
  - S**weep the nozzle side to side at the base of the fire until it is extinguished
4. Keep a safe distance (at least 1.8 to 2.4m/6 to 8 feet) from a fire and move cautiously closer as the flames diminish.
5. After extinguishing a fire, stay in the area and monitor for possible reignition of the fire. If the extinguished fire is on campus, call [Protective Services](#) at 306-585-4999.

### How to Safely Maintain a Fire Extinguisher

#### Monthly Inspections:

Check the pressure gauge to ensure it is in the **green** or "charged" zone.

--Ensure the pin and tamper seal are intact.

--Look for visible damage, corrosion, or leaks.

--Ensure that access to the fire extinguisher is not blocked or obstructed.

**Clean Regularly:** Wipe off dirt, grease, or debris from the body of the fire extinguisher and nozzle to ensure it will function properly.



**CERTIFIED** technicians perform annual inspections on all University of Regina fire extinguishers. Expired or damaged units are replaced.

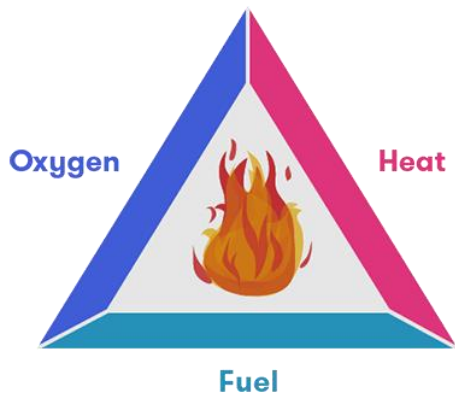
**IF** a fire extinguisher on campus has been used (even partially) contact [Facilities Management](#) to have it recharged. Remember to complete a [Health & Safety Incident Report](#).

**IF** a fire extinguisher on campus requires maintenance, contact Facilities Management at [facilities.management@uregina.ca](mailto:facilities.management@uregina.ca) or phone 306-585-5000.

**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

**MOST** fire extinguishers (off campus and for homes) have a life span of 5–15 years; **the majority are single-use only**. It is recommended that a fire extinguisher be replaced when it expires, shows signs of damage, or has been partially or fully discharged. Home fire extinguishers can be dropped off at the [Regina Household Hazardous Materials Depot](#).

## What do Fires Need to Burn?





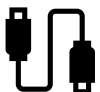


**FUEL:** Any material that can burn, such as wood, paper, or gasoline.

**HEAT:** Sufficient heat to raise the fuel's temperature to its ignition point, causing it to release flammable vapors.

**OXYGEN:** A gas that supports combustion. Air contains about 21% oxygen, and at least 16% is needed for a fire to burn.

**Removing any one of the above will put out a fire!**

## Different Classes of Fires

Class	Fire Type	Example	Extinguisher type
A 	Solid Combustibles	Wood, paper, cloth, plastics	Water, foam or, dry powder
B 	Flammable Liquids	Petrol, oil, paint	Foam, Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), or dry powder
C 	Electrical	Electrical equipment	Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), dry powder, clean agent
D 	Combustible metals	Magnesium, sodium, potassium	Specialized metal - powder specific to the metal type
F 	Cooking oils and fats	Combustible high-temperature oils or fats in cooking appliances	Wet chemical



## HOT TIPS!

Health and Safety offers Fire Extinguisher Training Workshops for students, faculty, and staff.

Please visit our [website](#) for more information and how to register.

Always check the fire extinguisher label to confirm what class(es) of fire the extinguisher is designed to handle.

Dry chemical extinguishers are the most common and are designed to extinguish Class A, B, and C fires.

Most cooking related fires involve grease or electrical equipment. **Do NOT USE WATER** to extinguish kitchen fires! Water can make the situation worse by spreading the fire or creating an electrical hazard.

Always prioritize your personal safety and contact emergency services!