



Fire Safety Guidance

Basic fire safety knowledge is an important skill that can save your life on or off the job.

Here we will breakdown basic characteristics of a fire, important fire safety tips, what to do if you find yourself with a fire and some discussion points for your group.

Characteristics of fire:

- To support fire, you must have; heat, fuel, oxygen, and sustained chemical reaction.
- A small fire can grow out of control in as little as 30 seconds.
- A room involved with a fire can have a temperature of 100°C at floor level and 600°C at eye level. In less than 5 minutes a room can flashover.
- Fire starts bright but will quickly turn the room pitch black from releasing smoke and toxic gases. Befamiliar with your surroundings and evacuation routes!

Fire safety tips:

- An important fire safety tip is to look for and eliminate any potential fire hazards before they become areality!
- Know where pull stations and extinguishers are located.
- Time is the biggest enemy, get out of the building!
- If a fire, pull nearest fire alarm, if possible, if not, call for help from a safe location outside.
- If smoke, stay as low to the ground as possible.
- If safe, close all doors behind you as you leave the building.
- Do not use the elevator for evacuation because the shaft can act as a chimney.
- Elevators also present an entrapment hazard if they fail.
- Never return to a burning building.

Group discussion topics:

- Identify all “high risk” areas in your facilities.
- Where are the nearest fire extinguishers and your buildings primary and secondary evacuation routes?
- Can these areas be modified to eliminate or lessen the potential risk?
- Identify if anyone has seen any close calls or fires during their tenure. How were those situations handled, good or bad?
- Ask the group to list any unanswered fire safety questions or concerns that they may have and submit to Fire Officer for assistance.

Plan – you will not have the time when a fire breaks out.