

Fire Extinguisher Use at Ames Laboratory



You are not required to
fight a fire,

but if you choose to...

BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE:

Use a nearby manual pull station to activate the fire alarms. This will get everyone else moving out of the building to a safe zone.



BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE:

The fire must be small enough
(incipient stage fire)
for you to be able to put it out with a
fire extinguisher.

BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE:

You need to be trained in fire extinguisher use.

Training in fire extinguisher usage is available from ISU Environmental Health & Safety.

Call the Training Office
at 4-9972 for scheduling information.

BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE:

You must have a clear way out of the fire area behind you **BEFORE** attempting to put out the fire. Otherwise, get out and wait for the Fire Department to respond.



BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO EXTINGUISH A FIRE

Determine WHAT is burning, and
use the right fire extinguisher
for the task.

There are five classes of fire:

Class A fires involve common combustible materials, such as wood, paper and fabrics.

Class B fires involve flammable and/or combustible liquids.

Class C fires involve electrical equipment that's energized.

Class D fires involve metals like sodium, or finely divided metals.

Class K fires involve cooking oils used in deep fryers, typically in commercial kitchens.

DON'T use a Class A (water) extinguisher on an electrical (C) fire, a fire involving a fryer (K), or a flammable liquid (B) fire, as the user may be electrocuted or the flammable liquid or burning oil will spread rapidly. Burning oil may also flash from the container if water is added. A demonstration of this can be viewed at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jmdEhyxHcpE>

The Ames Laboratory stages combination A-B-C fire extinguishers in the hallways and labs, and specialty extinguishers for designated locations or unusual situations.



The placement and maintenance of fire extinguishers are the responsibility of the people in the Plant Protection Section. If you use an extinguisher, please notify the PPS staff, in

G34 TASF

4-3483

guards@ameslab.gov

**To use a fire extinguisher,
you need to remember**

PASS

To use a fire extinguisher, you need to remember PASS



Pull the Pin- sometimes twisting the pin will need to be done to break the seal

To use a fire extinguisher, you need to remember PASS



Aim at the fire's base

To use a fire extinguisher, you need to remember PASS



Squeeze the lever to start
the fire extinguisher
discharge

To use a fire extinguisher, you need to remember PASS



Sweep the fire extinguisher back and forth across the fire base