

CERT Unit 2: Fire Safety

CERTs play a very important role in fire and _____ safety by:

- Extinguishing _____ fires before they become major fires
- Preventing _____ fires by removing fuel sources
- Shutting off _____ when necessary and safe to do so
- Assisting with _____ where necessary

Rescuer safety is _____ the number one priority. Therefore, CERT members always:

- Work with a _____
- Wear _____ equipment (gloves, helmet, goggles, N95 mask, and sturdy shoes or boots)

Fire requires three elements to exist:

- _____: Heat is required to elevate the temperature of a material to its ignition point.
- _____: The fuel for a fire may be a solid, liquid, or gas. The type and quantity of the fuel will determine which method should be used to extinguish the fire.
- _____: Most fires will burn vigorously in any atmosphere of at least 20 % oxygen. Without oxygen, most fuels could be heated until entirely vaporized, yet would not burn.

Class of Fires

- Class A Fires: _____ combustibles such as paper, cloth, wood, rubber, and many plastics
- Class B Fires: Flammable _____ (e.g., oils, gasoline) and combustible liquids (e.g., charcoal lighter fluid, kerosene). These fuels burn only at the surface because oxygen cannot penetrate the depth of the fluid. Only the vapor burns when ignited.
- Class C Fires: _____ electrical equipment (e.g., wiring, motors). When the electricity is turned off, the fire becomes a Class A fire.
- Class D Fires: Combustible _____ (e.g., aluminum, magnesium, titanium)
- Class K Fires: _____ oils (e.g., vegetable oils, animal oils, fats)

RESPONDING TO ELECTRICAL EMERGENCIES

_____ emergencies sometimes occur despite our best efforts. Every _____ of the household should be aware of the following procedures in the event of an electrical emergency:

- _____ the circuit breakers or fuses, and know how to shut off the power. Post shutoff instructions _____ to the breaker box or fuse box.
- _____ individual fuses or _____ off smaller breakers first, then pull the _____ switch or breaker.
- When turning the power back on, turn on the _____ switch or _____ first, then screw in the fuses or switch on the smaller breakers, _____ at a time.

You should not enter a _____ basement or standing water to shut off the electrical supply because water conducts electricity.

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Natural gas presents two types of hazards. It is an:

- _____ that robs the body of oxygen
- _____ that can easily ignite

The 9 steps of CERT sizeup are:

1. Gather _____.
2. Assess and _____ the damage.
3. Consider _____.
4. Assess your _____ situation.
5. Establish _____.
6. Make _____.
7. Develop a plan of _____.
8. Take _____.
9. _____ progress.

There is a series of questions to ask before attempting to fight a fire with a fire _____:

- Are there _____ ways to exit the area quickly and safely if I attempt to extinguish the fire? (The first priority for you and your buddy is safety.)
- Do I have the right _____ of extinguisher for the type of fire?
- Is the extinguisher _____ enough for the fire?
- Is the area free from other dangers, such as _____ materials and falling debris?

If you answer “_____” to any of these questions or if you have been unable to put out the fire in _____ seconds using the extinguisher, you should:

- _____ the building immediately.
- Shut all _____ as you leave to slow the spread of the fire.

The acronym for operating a fire extinguisher is P.A.S.S.:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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FIRE SUPPRESSION SAFETY RULES

- Use safety _____ at all times.
- Work with a _____.
- Have a _____ team, whenever possible.
- Always have _____ ways to exit the fire area.
- Look at the _____.
- Feel _____ doors with the back of the hand, working from the bottom of the door up.
- Confine the fire, whenever possible, by _____ doors and keeping them closed.
- Stay _____ to the ground.
- Maintain a _____ distance.
- Never turn your _____ on a fire when backing out.
- Overhaul the fire to be sure that it is _____ — and stays extinguished.

PROPER FIRE SUPPRESSION PROCEDURES A buddy system is used in all cases.


- The job of Team Member 1 is to put out a _____ with an extinguisher.
- The job of Team Member 2 is to watch for _____ and ensure the safety of both team members.

Here is the proper fire suppression procedure:

1. Assume ready position. With the pin pulled, Team Member 1 holds the extinguisher aimed and _____, approximately 20 to 25 feet from the fire for small fires.
2. When ready to approach the fire, Team Member 1 should say, “_____.” Team Member 2 should repeat, “_____.”
3. As Team Member 1 begins to move forward, he or she should say, “_____ in.” Team Member 2 should _____ the command and stay within reach of Team Member 1.
4. Both team members should _____ toward the fire. Team Member 1 should watch the fire and Team Member 2 should stay close to Team Member 1, keeping his or her hand on Team Member 1’s _____. Team Member 2’s job is to protect Team Member 1.
5. When Team Member 1 is exiting the fire area, he or she should say, “_____ out.” Team Member 2 should _____ the command.
6. Team Member 2 should _____ Team Member 1 from the area with his or her hands as Team Member 1 continues facing the _____ and looking for other _____. Team Member 1 must never turn his or her _____ on the fire scene.

In addition to the above symbols that are specified under the National Fire Codes, some NFPA 704

Diamonds will include additional symbols:

- ACID indicates that the material is an _____.
- ALK indicates that the material is a _____.
- COR indicates that the material is _____.
-  indicates that the material is _____