

**Fire Safety**

Marion-Dillon County Board of Disabilities and Special Needs



"Branching Out to Become Independent"

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**Fire Safety**

Three things must be present for a fire to start. They are:



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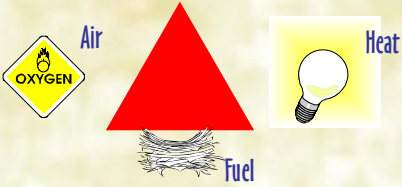
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**Fire Safety**

This is referred to as the fire triangle.



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**Fire Safety**

*There are two elements you can control to prevent fires from starting...*




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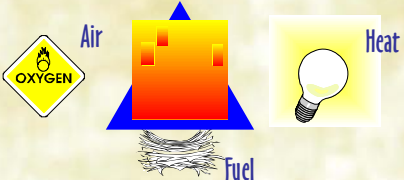
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**Fire Safety**

*Removing any one of these elements will put out the fire...*




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**Fire Safety**

*There are four facts you must know about fire.*



1. Fire is **black**, it is not light. Expect not to see. The smoke blocks all the light.

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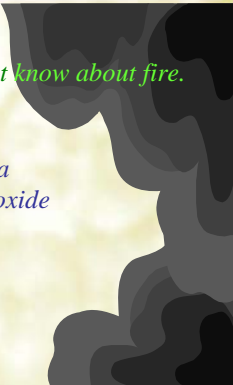
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**Fire Safety**

*There are four facts you must know about fire.*

2. *The smoke will kill you. Mingled in the smoke is a deadly gas, carbon monoxide (CO), which is odorless, colorless and acts as an anesthetic.*



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**Fire Safety**

*There are four facts you must know about fire.*

3. *The heat of the fire is so intense it will kill you in seconds.*



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**Fire Safety**

*There are four facts you must know about fire.*

4. *There is no time to think. Fire spreads rapidly. You must get out.*



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**Fire Safety**

*It is important to remember that smoke rises and will seek its own path of least resistance, filling halls and stairways. Closed doors can slow the spread of smoke and help to contain a fire.*

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**Fire Safety**

*You should be aware that certain home furnishings, when burned, may produce toxic gases that are heavier than air. These gases will be at floor level. You should crawl with your face at least one foot from the floor.*



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**Fire Safety**



*The best early warning device to alert you to a fire is a smoke detector. You cannot smell smoke when you are asleep. The smoke detector's batteries should be changed at least every year.*



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**Fire Safety**

*In case of fire:*

1. **Notify** all persons in the building.  
Set off an alarm.



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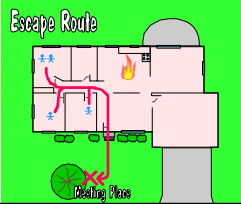
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**Fire Safety**

*In case of fire:*

2. **Evacuate** the building. Follow the evacuation plan.



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**Fire Safety**

*In case of fire:*

3. **Contain** the fire – close doors and windows as you evacuate.



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**Fire Safety**

*In case of fire:*

4. *Meet at a designated location.*



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**Fire Safety**

*In case of fire:*

5. *Call the fire department from a neighbor's phone.*



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**Fire Safety**



*In the event of fire, your first responsibility is to evacuate as quickly and as safely as possible. Attempts to extinguish the fire should only be made when it is safe and practical to do so.*

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**Fire Safety**



*Prior to using your fire extinguisher, be sure to read the instructions before it's too late.*

*Although there are many different types of fire extinguishers, all of them operate in a similar manner.*

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**Fire Safety**



***Pull the pin** at the top of the extinguisher. The pin releases a locking mechanism and will allow you to discharge the extinguisher.*

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**Fire Safety**



***Aim at the base of the fire**, not the flames. This is important – in order to put out the fire, you must extinguish the fuel.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Squeeze the lever slowly. This will release the extinguishing agent in the extinguisher. If the handle is released, the discharge will stop.*

*Sweep from side to side. Using a sweeping motion, move the fire extinguisher back and forth until the fire is completely out. Operate the extinguisher from a safe distance, several feet away, and then move towards the fire once it starts to diminish. Be sure to read the instructions on your fire extinguisher – different fire extinguishers recommend operating them from different distances. Remember: Aim at the base of the fire, not at the flames!*

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**Fire Safety**

**Fire Extinguisher Types**



*Fire extinguishers are divided into four (A,B,C,D) categories, based on different types of fires. Each fire extinguisher also has a numerical rating that serves as a guide for the amount of fire the extinguisher can handle. The higher the number, the more fire-fighting power.*

*Some fires may involve a combination of these classifications. Your fire extinguishers should have “ABC” ratings on them.*



*The following is a quick guide to help choose the right type of extinguisher.*

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**Fire Safety**

**Fire Extinguisher Types**



*Class A extinguishers are for ordinary combustible materials such as paper, wood, cardboard, and most plastics. The numerical rating on these types of extinguishers indicates the amount of water it holds and the amount of fire it can extinguish.*




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**Fire Safety**

**Fire Extinguisher Types**

**B**



*Class B fires involve flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, grease and oil. The numerical rating for class B extinguishers indicates the approximate number of square feet of fire it can extinguish.*

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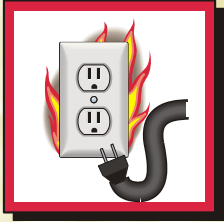
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**Fire Safety**

**Fire Extinguisher Types**

**C**

*Class C fires involve electrical equipment, such as appliances, wiring, circuit breakers and outlets. Class C extinguishers do not have a numerical rating. The C classification means the extinguishing agent is non-conductive.*




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**Fire Safety**

*If someone is trapped in the building, the sooner trained personnel arrive with the proper equipment, the better the odds of survival.*




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**Fire Safety**

*Fire and disaster drills are an important part of emergency preparedness. If properly executed, they can help to **reduce panic** when an alarm sounds.*

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**Fire Safety**

*In order for drills to be **effective**, all escape routes should be practiced **frequently**. Practice should be as **realistic** as possible, and all practices should be taken **seriously**.*

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**Fire Safety**

*During drills, the most important considerations are how **quickly** the building is evacuated, and did everyone **respond** to the alarm and go to the assigned **meeting place**.*

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**Fire Safety**

*While there are many important reasons for conducting regular fire and disaster drills, the **most important** reason for us is to continually reinforce and enhance the evacuation skills of our consumers.*

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**Fire Safety**

*We need to teach our consumers to evacuate the building if they see or smell smoke, if they see fire, or hear a fire/smoke alarm. Be sure that they do not rely on the prompting of staff to get out of harm's way.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Fire prevention activities involve both the inside and outside of a building.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*

*Check the landscape for potential hazards:  
accumulated trash or leaves.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*

*Check for any hazards blocking exits:  
overgrown bushes blocking windows or fire escapes.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*

*Locate and check all possible exits to make  
sure they are functional and that they also  
provide access for fire fighters.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*

*Check yard for ease of access by fire fighters and equipment.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*

*Check area for location of hydrants and other water sources: swimming pools, ponds, etc.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Outside*



*Identify a safe and accessible meeting place for fire drills and emergencies.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Inside*

*Check every possible means of escape, including hallways, windows, fire escapes, porch roofs, etc., to become familiar with them and how to train people to use them safely.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Inside*



*Make sure all possible exit routes inside the building are clear of hazards and are easily followed. Each room should have **at least two** ways out.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Inside*

*Check entire building for potential hazards such as flammable liquids stored indoors or near a heat source, frayed wiring, piles of rubbish. Energized electrical appliances should be unplugged after use.*



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**Fire Safety**



*Inside*

*Make sure television sets have adequate ventilation. Keep dryer vents cleared of lint. Extension cords should be visible along their entire length.*

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**Fire Safety**

*Inside*

*Cigarette butts should be disposed of properly.*



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**Fire Safety**

*The danger of carbon monoxide (CO) is not limited to a burning house. Your home may contain CO hazards.*



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**Fire Safety**

*CO hazards in the home include: blocked or clogged chimney; fireplace (gas or wood burning); portable heaters; kitchen range or stove; attached garage; grill used indoors; water heater; furnace (vent, heat exchanger); clothes dryer; airtight, energy efficient home.*



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**Fire Safety**

*Exposure to low levels of carbon monoxide can produce flu-like symptoms: headache, nausea, fatigue and dizziness.*



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**Fire Safety**



*A carbon monoxide detector is your best defense. In a fire, victims can be overcome by CO before they can respond to a smoke alarm.*

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