

Topic

General Fire Safety

Time Required:

One Hour

Materials:

NFPA Brochures, Video Tape, PowerPoint presentation.

Reference:

National Fire Protection Association

PREPARATION

Objective:

The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of fire safety, early warning devices, an escape plan, and extinguishment.

INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

I. Introduction to Fire Facts

- A. Fires kill more Americans than all other natural emergencies combined.
- B. Including: floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, and volcanoes.
- C. Loss of lives
 - 1. Close to 5,000 lives are claimed by fire each year
 - 2. Fire injures nearly 30,000 people in the U.S. every year
- D. Number of fires
 - 1. Over 2 million fires are reported annually
- E. Dollar loss
 - 1. 10 billion dollars in fire damages occurred in 1995 alone

II. What is fire

- A. Think of a triangle- fuel, heat source, and air.
- B. Remove any one of these, and out goes the fire.

III. What can you do to avoid starting a fire

- A. Avoid bad habits
- B. Practice good housekeeping habits
- C. Check for fire hazards
- D. Use U.L. approved containers with spring loaded caps for storing flammable liquids like gasoline
- E. Electrical Safety
 - 1. Make sure appliances and electrical cords are U.L. rated
 - 2. Provide adequate ventilation for televisions, computers, stereos and other heat generating devices

3. Plug all heat generating devices directly into wall outlets
4. Don't yank on electrical cords
5. Don't hang cords over nails, pipes, or with tacks
6. Use only proper type fuses in your circuit box
7. Don't overload circuits
8. Discard frayed wiring

F. Smoking

1. Don't smoke in bed
2. Be sure cigarettes are completely out before disposal
3. Use large non-combustible ashtrays
4. Keep matches and lighters out of reach of children

G. Kitchen Safety

1. Keep stove in good repair
2. Clean all grease deposits
3. Cover pot fires to smother them
4. Keep oven door closed in event of fire
5. Never wear loose fitting clothing while cooking
6. Never leave cooking unattended

IV. Early Warning Device

A. Smoke Detectors

1. Install one on each level of your home near sleeping areas
2. Test them monthly
3. Maintain them properly
4. Replace the batteries annually

B. Fire Alarm System

1. When it sounds, leave the building
2. Treat each alarm as a "real" one

C. Manual Pull Station

1. If a fire is encountered, pull the alarm to warn others as you leave
2. Call 911 when you have evacuated the building

V. Evacuation Plan

A. Have a diagram of your home or building

B. Exits

1. Know where all of your exits are
2. Never block your exits
3. Have at least two ways out of every room
4. Get out and stay out- never hide or go back inside
5. Never use the elevator during a high-rise fire

C. Pre-plan any accommodations

1. Children, pets, and other valuables should be addressed in your evacuation plan
2. People needing assistance
3. Designate floor wardens to check and monitor areas of responsibility

D. Once the plan is completed

1. Make everyone aware
2. Practice
3. Post

VI. Fire Extinguishers

A. Classification of fuels

1. Class A- ordinary combustibles
2. Class B- Flammable liquids
3. Class C- Electrical
4. Class D- Metal

B. Fire Extinguisher Ratings

1. A pictograph label tells you which types of fuel it will extinguish
2. Using the wrong type of extinguisher may make matters worse

C. Rules for fighting fires

1. When encountering a fire, activate the fire alarm system and call 911
2. Never fight a fire if you don't know what's burning
3. Stop and get out if it becomes too big
4. Keep yourself between an exit and the fire

D. Remember PASS

1. P- Pull the pin
2. A- Aim the nozzle
3. S- Squeeze the trigger
4. S- Sweep the nozzle side to side

E. Placement and Maintenance

1. Place and maintain it to manufacturer's recommendation
2. Have it visible
3. Check it monthly