Here is your free **PASS** on how to use a Fire Extinguisher!

Did you know that Fire Extinguishers are safe and easy to use? Most people are afraid of fire extinguishers because they think it is toxic or can explode!

A Fire Extinguisher has about the same pressure as if you had your garden hose on full and after you release the kink, you would feel some pressure. The extinguishing powder called ammonium phosphate is non-toxic. When the powder reaches the base of the fire, it smothers the oxygen in the fire to put it out.

A common 2A 10BC Fire Extinguisher weighs about 5 pounds. Class A fire is a common combustible; paper, cardboard, material, wood. Class B fire is flammable liquids. Class C fire is charged electrical. Here are a few tips for you to know how to use your fire extinguisher in case of a small fire emergency.

As soon as you see a fire, make sure you alert anyone in the building or home so they can get out. Have someone call 911 to report the fire. Then grab the fire extinguisher and check the gauge to make sure it is charged. Charged means there is enough air pressure to force the powder out of the cylinder.

**P A S S Method**

**P**ull the Pin- In most cases it is a good idea to twist and pull the pin allowing you to squeeze the handle.

**A**im at the base of the fire about 6-8 feet away from the fire, always keeping your back to the door so you can get out.

**S**queeze- Squeeze the handle and keep it squeezed as you step a couple of feet toward the fire.

**S**weep- Sweep the nozzle side to side while spraying the extinguisher to cover the base of the fire.

Always back out of a fire, even if you think it is out so you can keep your eye on it!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FIRE EXTINGUISHERS OR TRAINING, CONTACT NOVATO FIRE DISTRICT FIRE TRAINING SPECIALIST SANDY WARGO AT 878-2623.