How to Use Portable Fire Extinguishers

**Olympia** – The Washington State Fire Marshal’s Office recommends using extreme caution when attempting to extinguish a small fire in your house:

- First, evacuate everyone out of the house and call 911.
- Only attempt to extinguish small and confined fires, about the size of a small garbage can, and only if you have a clear escape route.
- Use a multipurpose fire extinguisher that is rated for wood/paper/fabric, flammable liquids, and electrical fires. These extinguishers are labeled ABC for the most common types of household fires.
- Stay 6’ to 8’ away from the base of the fire.
- Pull out the pin on the extinguisher
- Aim at the base of the fire.
- Squeeze the handle of the extinguisher to discharge the extinguishing agent.
- Sweep side to side to extinguish the fire.

For further information, contact your local fire department or call the State Fire Marshal's Office at 360-596-3929.

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