FIRE SUPRESSION SAFETY RULES

- Use safety equipment at all times. Wear your helmet, goggles, dust mask, leather gloves, and sturdy shoes.
- Work in teams of three (3). Working as a team protects your safety. Don't ever try to fight a fire alone. Remember that your first priority is your personal safety. Don't put yourself at risk.
- <u>Have a backup team</u>. A backup team can support fire suppression efforts and provide help if needed.
- <u>Always have two ways to exit the fire area</u>. Fires spread much faster than you might think. Always have a backup escape plan in case your main escape route becomes blocked.
- Look at the door. If air is being sucked under the door or smoke is coming out the top, do not touch the door.
- <u>Feel closed doors with the back of the hand</u>, working from the bottom of the door up. Do <u>not</u> touch the door handle before feeling the door. If the door is hot, there is fire behind it. Do not enter! Opening the door will feed additional oxygen to the fire.
- Confine the fire, whenever possible, by keeping doors closed.
- Do **not** enter smoke-filled areas. Fire suppression in smoke-filled areas requires special equipment.
- <u>Maintain a safe distance</u>. Remember the effective range of your fire extinguisher. Don't get closer than necessary to extinguish the fire. If you can feel the heat, you are too close.
- <u>Do not try to suppress large fires</u>. Learn the capability of your equipment and don't try to suppress a fire that is clearly too large for the equipment (fire that is larger than the combined ratings of your fire extinguishers).
- Overhaul the fire making sure it's extinguished and stays extinguished. Remember "cool, soak and separate."



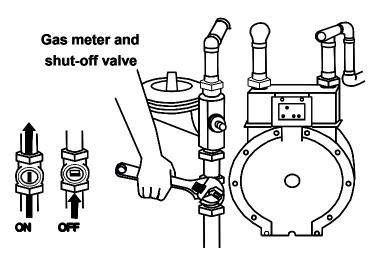




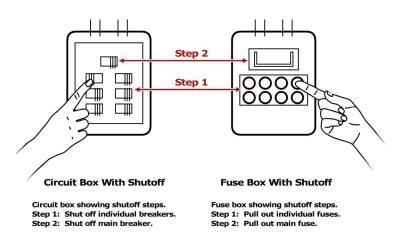


PROPER FIRE SUPRESSION PROCEDURE:

- Assume ready position. With the pin pulled, **Team Member 1** holds the extinguisher aimed and upright, approximately 20 to 25 feet from the fire.
- When ready to approach the fire, Team Member 1 says, "Ready." Team Member 2 should repeat, "Ready."
- As Team Member 1 begins to move forward, he or she should say, "Going in." Team Member 2 should repeat the command and stay within reach of Team Member 1.
- **Team Member 3** should be at least 50 feet away from the fire, watching the team and checking for hazards.
- Team Member 1 and 2 should walk toward the fire. Team Member 1 should watch the fire and Team Member 2 should stay close to Team Member 1, keeping a hand on Team Member 1's shoulder. Team Member 2's job is to protect Team Member 1.
- When Team Member 1 is exiting the fire area, he or she should say, "Backing out." Team Member 2 should repeat the command.
- Team Member 2 should guide Team Member 1 from the area as Team Member 1 continues facing the fire and looking for other hazards. Team Member 1 must never turn his or her back on the fire scene.



The gas meter shutoff diagram indicates the shutoff valve location on the pipe that comes out of the ground. To turn off the valve, use a non-sparking wrench to turn the valve clockwise one-quarter turn. Remember that, in all cases, natural gas flow should only be turned on by PG&E.



The NFPA 704 Diamond placard is found on fixed facilities where hazardous materials are used or stored. The Diamond is divided into four colored quadrants, each with a rating number inside of it, which indicates the degree of risk associated with the material. Numbers range from 1 to 4. The higher the number the higher the risk!

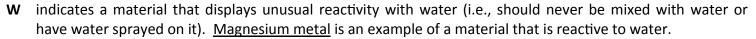
The red quadrant describes the material's flammability.

The <u>blue</u> quadrant indicates <u>health hazard</u>.

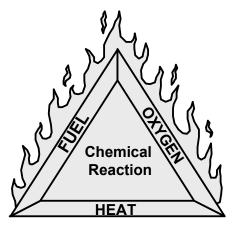
The yellow quadrant indicates reactivity.

The white quadrant indicates special precautions.

There are two symbols specified in the National Fire Codes, section 704:



OX indicates a material that possesses oxidizing properties. <u>Ammonium nitrate</u> is an example of a material with oxidizing properties. Materials that are oxidizers increase the potential for explosion or fire.



Fire requires three elements to exist:

<u>Heat</u>: Heat is required to raise the temp of a material to its ignition point. <u>Fuel</u>: 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. <u>Oxygen</u>: 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.

These three elements, called the <u>fire triangle</u>, create a chemical exothermic reaction, which is fire.