

## Tenants use Fire Extinguisher to put out Apartment Fire

August 21, 2012 - Palmer, MA, MassLive.com

An electrical fire caused approximately \$5,000 in damage to a duplex at 3006-3008 Cross St. in the Bondsville section early Tuesday morning, and Bondsville Fire Chief Scott D. Gustafson credited the tenants, who used a fire extinguisher, with preventing the fire from potentially spreading to the second floor. Gustafson said approximately 12 firefighters responded to the fire that was reported just before 4 a.m. and were on scene about two hours. There were no injuries. "It appears at this point it is accidental, electrical in nature," Gustafson said. The fire started on the back deck, and burned the area around the back door. Tenant Steven J. Rusiecki, of 3006 Cross St., said he had gotten up about 30 minutes earlier to go to the bathroom and let his cat inside, and nothing was amiss. He said he was woken up by the sounds of "crackling" and saw the flames. "I came downstairs and it was all in flames. I grabbed the fire extinguisher," Rusiecki said. Rusiecki and his two roommates can stay at the duplex; the other side is empty. The duplex is owned by Philip Dunaj and Sarah Phelps of Ludlow. Gustafson said the tenants kept a fire extinguisher in the kitchen, which leads out to the deck. "They kept it contained until we got there," Gustafson said.

*"Portable extinguishers and extinguishing systems are vitally important pieces of a comprehensive fire safety strategy. Studies have indicated that most will attempt to extinguish an incipient fire, and portable fire extinguishers should be their tool of choice."*

- Adolf Zubia, South Carolina State Fire Marshal

## Porch Fire Extinguished by Neighbor

September 16, 2012 - Waukesha, WI, Patch.com

A porch on the third story of The Meadows Apartments on Springdale Road caught fire Sunday afternoon, causing about only \$5,000 in damage. An alert neighbor entered the unoccupied apartment and began to put out the flames with a fire extinguisher, according to Battalion Chief Joe Hoffman. The Waukesha Fire Department responded and made sure the fire was completely out. No injuries occurred in the fire that was reported at 2:57 p.m. The cause of the fire is believed to be carelessly discarded smoking materials, according to Hoffman.

*"A sound fire safety strategy has to include portable extinguishers. They can extinguish fires during the incipient stage before they are large enough to trigger a sprinkler or other suppression system. This helps to protect against property damage and the buildup of dangerous smoke."*

- Joe Pierce, Dallas Fire & Rescue Department  
Chair, Fire and Life Safety Section  
International Association of Fire Chiefs

## Staff Members Extinguish Rancho Mirage Healthcare Center Fire

September 15, 2012- Riverside, CA, City News Service

Staff members at a healthcare center quickly doused a fire before firefighters arrived, officials said. No one was hurt at the Country Villa Health Services center when the 8:50 a.m. fire was ignited by a faulty light fixture in a hallway, according to the Riverside County Fire Department. Staffers used a fire extinguisher to snuff out the flames prior to the arrival of firefighters to 39950 Vista Del Sol, officials said.

## Fire Extinguisher in Car Used to Extinguish Truck Fire

September 14, 2012 - Eureka, MI, Patch.com



Call fire department  
Announce fire/alert  
others; Make sure  
everyone is safe.



Defend  
in place



Fire/smoke  
alarm sounds



Suppression  
system  
activates



Sprinkler  
system  
activates



Fire  
department  
responds

A fire extinguisher may not be the first item most motorists would think to have along with their vehicles. But it's one that Pacific resident Dan White had in his truck, and it totally paid off for another truck driver from Arkansas passing through Eureka on Thursday afternoon. Dwayne Schrodel was driving from Arkansas to Decatur, IL, when a pool of black liquid spewed out and caught fire underneath his engine as he exited Interstate 44 to Eureka at the Allenton/Six Flags road ramp. "I've had that extinguisher bouncing around my truck for years," said White. "I could finally use it, and it was awesome." Schrodel's Ford 150 sat smoking, blocking the exit of those coming off the eastbound lane of the interstate. Oddly, within a few minutes, along came a driver of the Hyndrich Towing Company, as if on cue. That driver kindly pulled Schrodel's truck out of the busy traffic pattern and over to nearby Circle K Shell station. Within the next seconds, along came firefighters from the Eureka Fire Protection District, followed soon by an officer of the Eureka Police Department.



#### **Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association 101**

The Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association is the premier trade association representing leading brands, and spanning dozens of product categories related to fire protection. The Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association is comprised of four divisions represented by product categories: portable fire extinguishers, interior equipment, fire hose and pre-engineered suppression systems. These divisions work together in an effort to promote Balanced Fire Protection, Life Safety and initial response when disaster strikes. Members of the Fire Equipment Manufacturers' Association have formed a subgroup, the Government Relations Committee (GRC), to address legislative and regulatory issues relating to portable fire extinguishers and pre-engineered systems. The GRC's main goals focus on helping to educate officials by advancing a balanced fire safety philosophy that reflects the need for both sprinklers and portable extinguishers. This newsletter is published periodically to communicate to key members of the fire services and code officials on the importance of balanced fire safety and the role that special application fire suppression systems and portable extinguishers play.