Resident Puts Out Own Fire at Madison Heights Mobile Home

WSET TV- Amherst, VA
September 20, 2013

Having a fire extinguisher on hand may have saved a Madison Heights home Thursday morning. The Amherst County public safety director says that at around 12:30 a.m., a mobile home on Duke Drive caught fire. Gary Roakes says the owner was able to put out the flames with a fire extinguisher before crews arrived. While investigators looked for a cause, the Red Cross put up the three residents in a hotel for the night. Roakes says it started from an electrical outlet in the kitchen.

"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 Zibia, Former South Carolina State Fire Marshal

Good Samaritans save woman from burning car in North Charleston

WBTW News- Charleston, SC
September 25, 2013

Shana Porter was saved from a burning car on Interstate 26 in North Charleston thanks to the quick thinking and brave actions of passing motorists. Paramedic and EMT team David and Nikoole Dickson were just two of the many people who jumped from their vehicles and jumped into action. "As we got out of our vehicle we noticed that the car was on fire. Once we got closer, we noticed that someone was screaming from inside the vehicle," David Dickson said. "The flames were coming into the vehicle toward the driver I was able to put our fire extinguisher in to keep the flames off the driver," he continued. "You could see the fuel dripping from the back of the car. Our main concern was to keep it from traveling to that gas tank," Nikoole Dickson said. It was reported that just as the first fire extinguisher was running out, an extinguisher delivery person happened upon the accident scene with 30 more extinguishers. "Without everyone working as a team she would not have survived that wreck," David Dickson said.

"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, Deputy Chief, Dallas, Texas Fire Department
Truck Driver Rescues Woman from Burning Car UPS

E Canada Now- Los Angeles, CA
September 8, 2013

The quick thinking truck driver who witnessed a horrifying accident on the 60 Freeway just east of downtown Los Angeles used a fire extinguisher from his vehicle to help rescue a woman trapped in one of the vehicles. He used the extinguisher on the fast-growing flames, allowing the woman to get out of the vehicle. "As the flames got bigger, I got my fire extinguisher from my truck," Sanchez said. "Some other Good Samaritans had tried to pull the door, but they could not get it open. There's only so much you can do when it's that hot." Sanchez's heroic efforts helped the victim escape the truck. Sanchez downplayed his role in helping to save the trapped woman, insisting he was no hero but simply did what he could. He had high praise for California Highway Patrol officers who arrived quickly on the scene.

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.