

## Bus driver praised for using fire extinguisher

WCVB 5 (Boston, MA)

March 13, 2020

Somerville, MA - A bus driver has been recognized as a hero after she jumped into action to help save people in a burning home. The driver was returning the bus back to the garage when she came upon the fire burning in a three-family home. She stopped the bus, grabbed the vehicle's portable fire extinguisher, and ran to the building. She emptied the extinguisher onto the flames, and then knocked on an adjoining door to get people out. The bus driver reported that she was assisted by an unknown male party with trying to help notify residents in the building and with extinguishing the fire. [\[Read more\]](#)



*"A little two-and-a-half-pound extinguisher can save your house."*

- Richard Osterberg Jr.,  
Chief, East Hampton, NY  
Fire Department

## Neighbor's quick response with extinguisher limits damage

Bellingham Herald (Bellingham, WA)

March 5, 2020

Bellingham, WA - Bellingham Fire Department and North Whatcom Fire and Rescue crews reported to Yew Street after a 911 caller saw smoke coming from an upstairs window. Before the crew's arrival, a neighbor broke a window and entered the house to use a portable fire extinguisher to knock down the flames before fire authorities arrived. Afterwards, the Bellingham Fire Captain explained, "Fire extinguishers are designed to interfere with the growth of a fire during the incipient, or early, phase of a fire. The use of an extinguisher had a direct impact on this fire, allowing the resident to remain in the house and resulting in very little damage being caused by this fire." [\[Read more\]](#)

*"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, Retired Deputy Chief  
Dallas, Texas Fire Department

## Portable extinguisher stops car fire

Komo News (Lake Stevens, WA)

March 30, 2020

Lake Stevens, WA. - A woman was injured when her car went careening off a road one recent evening. The car went 50 feet down an embankment, where it crashed and caught fire in the engine compartment. A nearby witness was able to quickly douse the flames with a portable fire extinguisher. Firefighters were able to remove the driver from the car and took her to the hospital with a leg injury. A man riding in the passenger seat was able to get out of the car on his own and was not injured. [\[Read more\]](#)



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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

**FIRE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION**  
Saving Lives, Protecting Property.

### 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 Layered 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 layered 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 layered fire safety and the role that special application fire suppression systems and portable extinguishers play.