

Proper extinguisher is key to fire safety

The following information is provided by the Farmington Department of Public Safety, which incorporates both fire and police protection for residents of the city of Farmington. Residents or business people with questions, concerns or additional information should call the department at 473-7262.

Farmington Fire Marshal Joe Schornack said he has received a number of calls regarding fire extinguishers, relating to what type should be purchased or used.

Although he recommends a fire extinguisher for every home — they are required in businesses — there are several things to consider, he said. Each extinguisher carries a label, telling what types of fires they can fight.

• A Type — handles dry combustibles including paper, wood, cloth, rubber and upholstery.



• B Type — handles flammable liquids, including oil, grease and gasoline.

• C Type — handles electrical fires, including appliances and televisions.

The contents of extinguishers also vary. A dry chemical one is versatile and inexpensive, usually running \$10-30, but halon extinguishers are

often chosen around home computers and offices because they will not damage equipment. A halon will run between \$20-50.

Schornack said combination extinguishers are popular for home use. A home may need more than one, depending on its size. Schornack recommends purchasing one per floor in a large house. Keep the extinguisher near an exit.

Every business in the city is required, by law, to have at least one fire extinguisher, or more, depending on the size and contents of the building.

Pressure gauges show whether any extinguisher is charged properly.

Schornack offers a word of caution: "Don't rely on your extinguisher to save lives. In the event of a fire, get everyone out of the house and have someone call the fire department."

In the Farmington area, dial 9-1-1.

OTA plans to clean up downtown area May 5

The Farmington Old Village Association is, once again, planning a Spring Clean-up Day on Saturday, May 5.

The group's second annual effort is designed to encourage citizens in the downtown area to clean up their houses and properties. The

event will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Members of OVA will be available to help people who need to move heavy items out of their yards and basements. Anyone needing help should call the OVA at 473-5128 and leave a message with pertinent information.

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