Safety Tip of the Week

Fire Extinguisher Use

According to OSHA regulations, no one at a workplace is supposed to use a fire extinguisher unless they have been trained to do so. Though this may seem awfully restrictive, there are several good reasons for this rule. If an untrained person tries to extinguish a blaze, some serious mistakes can happen. Any of these mistakes can cause the fire to become worse or injure, or kill, the individual.

Use Your Judgment:

When you see smoke or fire you should use your own good judgment before you decide to extinguish the blaze. Ask yourself these questions:

- Is the fire limited in size and spread?
- Will you have an escape route if something goes wrong?
- Do you know the location of the nearest fire extinguisher?

Responding to Fires:

Sound the fire alarm and call the local fire department immediately if a fire breaks out. Once you have decided to extinguish the blaze, attempt to fight the fire only if you know the type of combustible material burning, you have been trained to use the fire extinguisher correctly, and the fire is still in the incipient (beginning) stage.

IT JUST TAKES ONE PERSON TO START A FIRE…BUT FIRE PREVENTION IS EVERYONE'S JOB!!