

EFFECTS OF FIRE

Most fires produce an immense amount of smoke that is highly toxic. In fact, smoke is responsible for more fire fatalities. Smoke can have the following effect on humans:

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| Within 30 seconds | - | Disorientation |
| Within 2 minutes | - | Unconsciousness |
| Within 3 minutes | - | Death |

Timing is critical in any situation. To ensure safety, knowledge on prevention and quick response to any emergency is a must.

In the event of fire, your personal safety is your most important concern. You are not required to fight fire. If all of the following conditions are met, then you may choose to use a fire extinguisher against fire. If any of the conditions is not met, or you have even the slightest doubt about your personal safety, do not fight the fire.

Attempt to use fire extinguishers, if:

- ✓ The fire alarm has been pulled, and the fire department has been called.
- ✓ The fire is small and contained.
- ✓ You know your escape route and can fight the fire with your back to exit.
- ✓ You know what kind of fire extinguisher is required.
- ✓ The correct extinguisher is immediately at hand.
- ✓ You have been trained in the proper handling of fire extinguishers.