

***“One dark night, when people were in bed,
Mrs. O’ Leary lit a lantern in her shed,
The cow kicked it over, winked its eye, and said,
There'll be a hot time in the old town tonight.”***

Historians agree that on Sunday evening, October 8, 1871, the Chicago Fire did indeed start in the barn of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick and Catherine O’Leary. While the blaze ironically spared the O’Leary home, located on the city’s West Side at 137 De Koven Street, much of the rest of Chicago was not so fortunate. Before the fire died out in the early morning of Tuesday, October 10, it had cut a swath through Chicago approximately three and one-third square miles in size. Property valued at \$192,000,000 was destroyed, 100,000 people were left homeless, and 300 people lost their lives.

<http://www.thechicagofire.com/>



Barn Fire

Preparedness

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livestockemergencymanagement.com

Jennifer Zajackowski, Frank Zajackowski,
Brenda Coe, Dawn Hulslander-Mallare

Sponsored by:



Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Grants
Smith Property Services, Carlisle, PA

Who We Are



Horse People



Facility Designers





**Agricultural Safety
Advocates**

What We Do





It CAN Happen to YOU!

- *It is estimated that over 5000 Barn Fires occur each year.*
- *That is more than 14 Barn Fires – PER DAY!*
- *Barn fires kill more horses than all natural disasters combined.*

Source: National Equine Safety Association (NESA)

SURVEY THE SCENE!

NEVER

Enter A Burning Building Unless

YOU

Are a

TRAINED FIREMAN

And

HAVE THE PROPER
EQUIPMENT!

Smoke, Heat and Fire Kill



Turnout or Bunker Gear

- Fire-Dex® Assault Gear™
PBI® Fire Coat \$849.99
- Fire-Dex® Assault Gear
PBI® Fire Pants \$649.99
- Ranger® Lightweight Bunker
Boots \$179.99
- Proximity Gear Gloves
\$124.99
- SCBA \$2400.00
- Super Pass® II
Motion/Temperature Detector
\$239.99

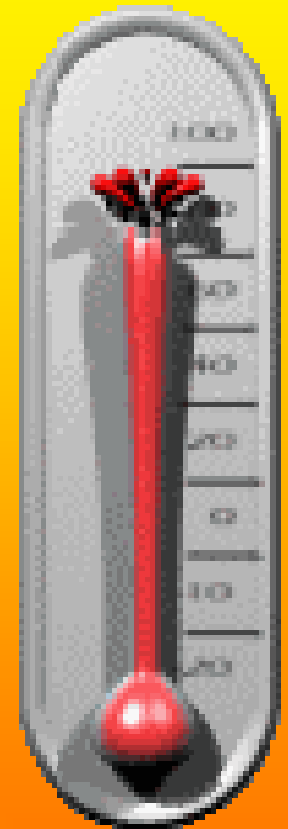
Total: \$4444.95

www.galls.com



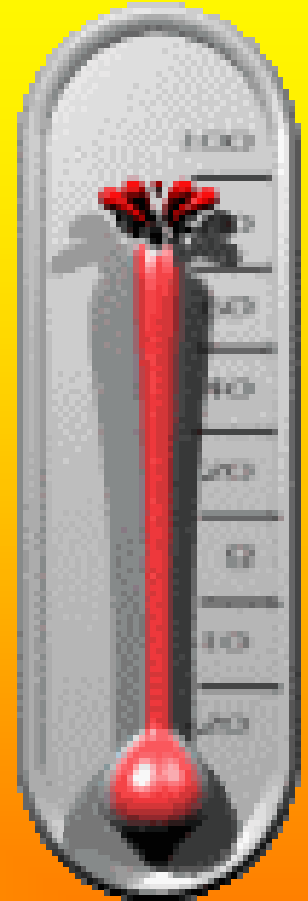
How Much Time Do You Have to Save Your Horses?

- *Straw reaches a burning temperature of 300°F in one to five minutes.*
- *It is a material that develops as much heat at the same rate as gasoline.*
- *It takes two to three minutes for a straw fire to burn an area 10-feet in diameter.*



How Fast Will Fire Injure Your Horse?

- *At only 4-feet in diameter, most horses are injured.*
- *By 6-foot diameter the lungs are seared.*
- *By 8-foot diameter the horse will start to suffocate.*
- *By 10-feet diameter, the horse is dead.*



All of this occurs in two to three minutes. If the horse is to survive, he must be removed from the stall within 30-seconds.

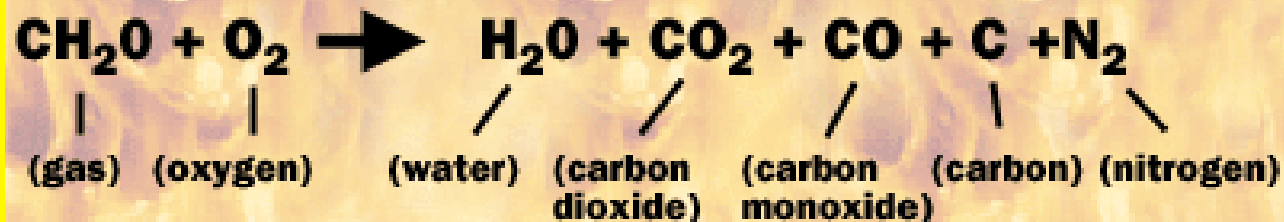
What is Fire?

Heated wood releases gases



© 2002 HowStuffWorks

Gases react with oxygen in atmosphere



© 2002 HowStuffWorks

Stages of Fire



- Smoldering or Incipient Phase
 - Variable is length (minutes to hours)
 - Greatest chance of being controlled

Stages of Fire

- Flame Eruption
 - EXTREMELY DANGEROUS
 - EXTREMELY UNPREDICTABLE
 - Rapid Growth
 - Intense Heat Production

It only takes a few minutes after flame eruption for ceiling temperatures to exceed 1800°F

2500°F

1500°F

500°F

0°F

1

2

3

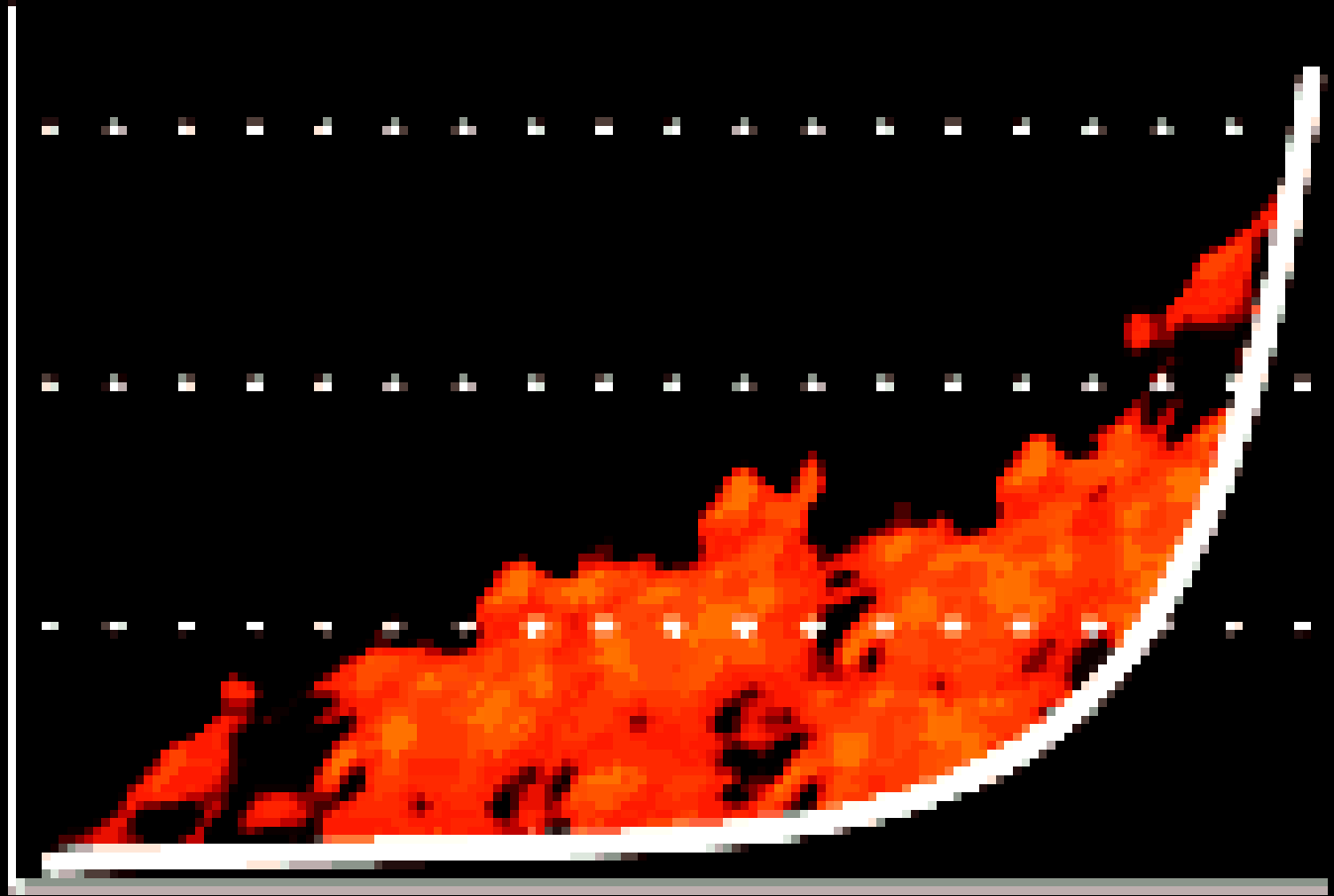
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6

7

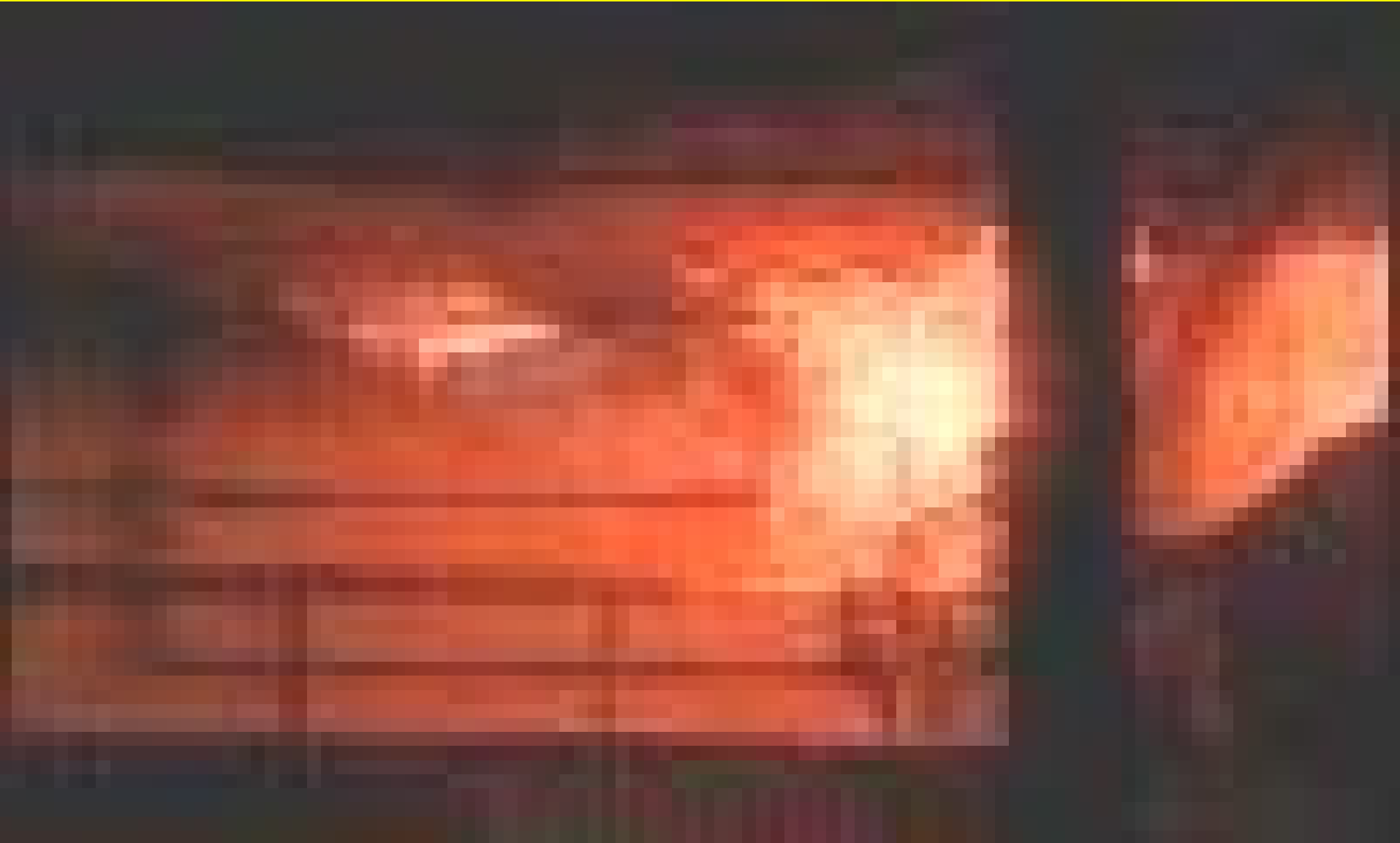
Time in Minutes



Stages of Fire

- Flash Point
 - Often can occur in 3- to 5-minutes
 - Hot air temperatures simultaneously ignite all combustibles within the space
 - Building structure most likely destroyed

***Survivability within the structure has been
lost***







Stages of Fire

- Burn Out
 - All fuel sources have been exploited
 - BUT not all fuel sources have been burned
- Re-Kindle
 - Impervious fuel sources can remain unburned and continue to smolder
 - Another visit from the fire company

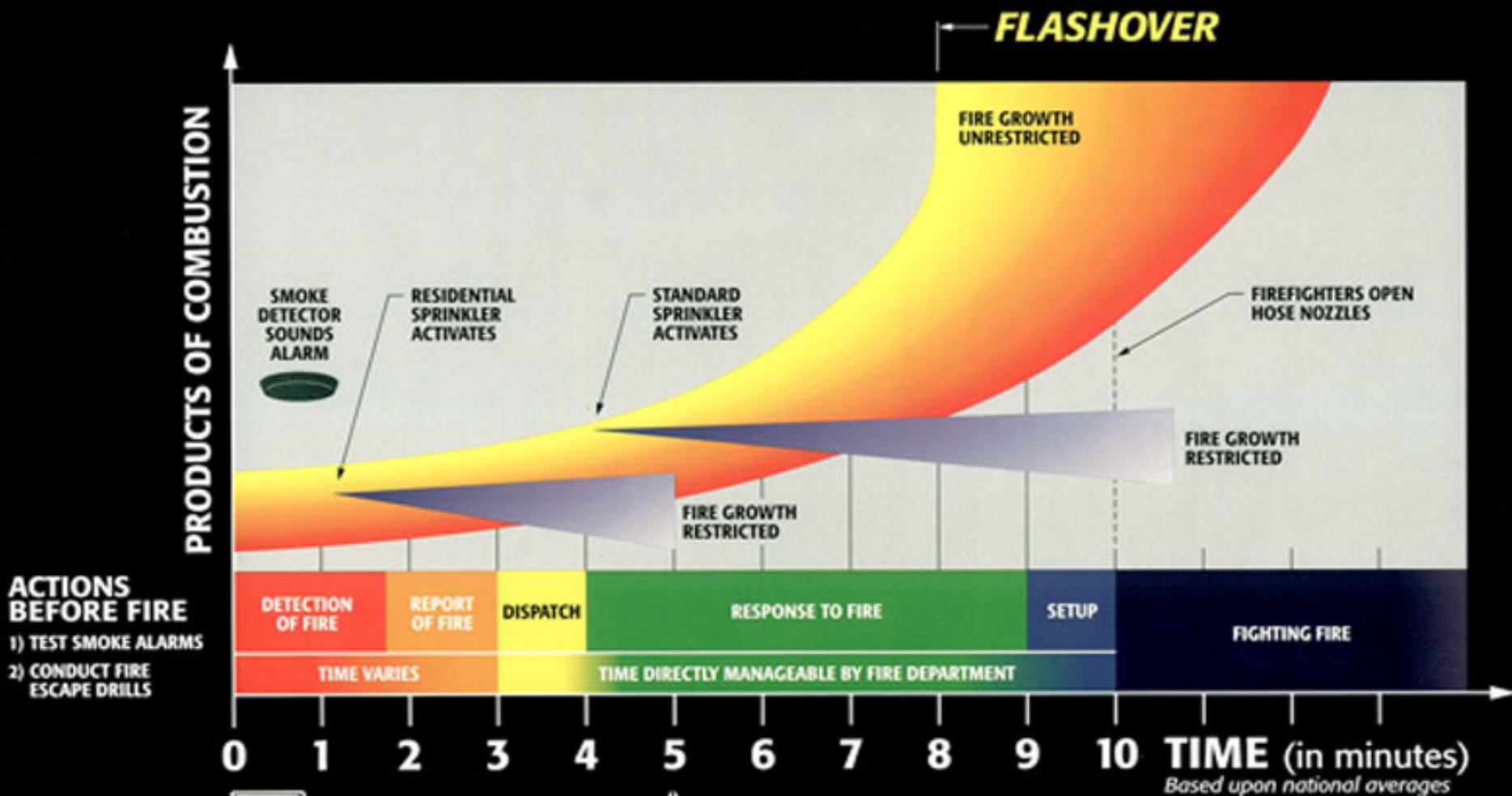




Smoke

- Part of the fire's killing attributes
- Produced in the earliest stages of fire development
- Contains noxious gases & partially burned carbon particles
 - CO & CO₂
 - Dependent on what is burning

TIME vs. PRODUCTS of COMBUSTION

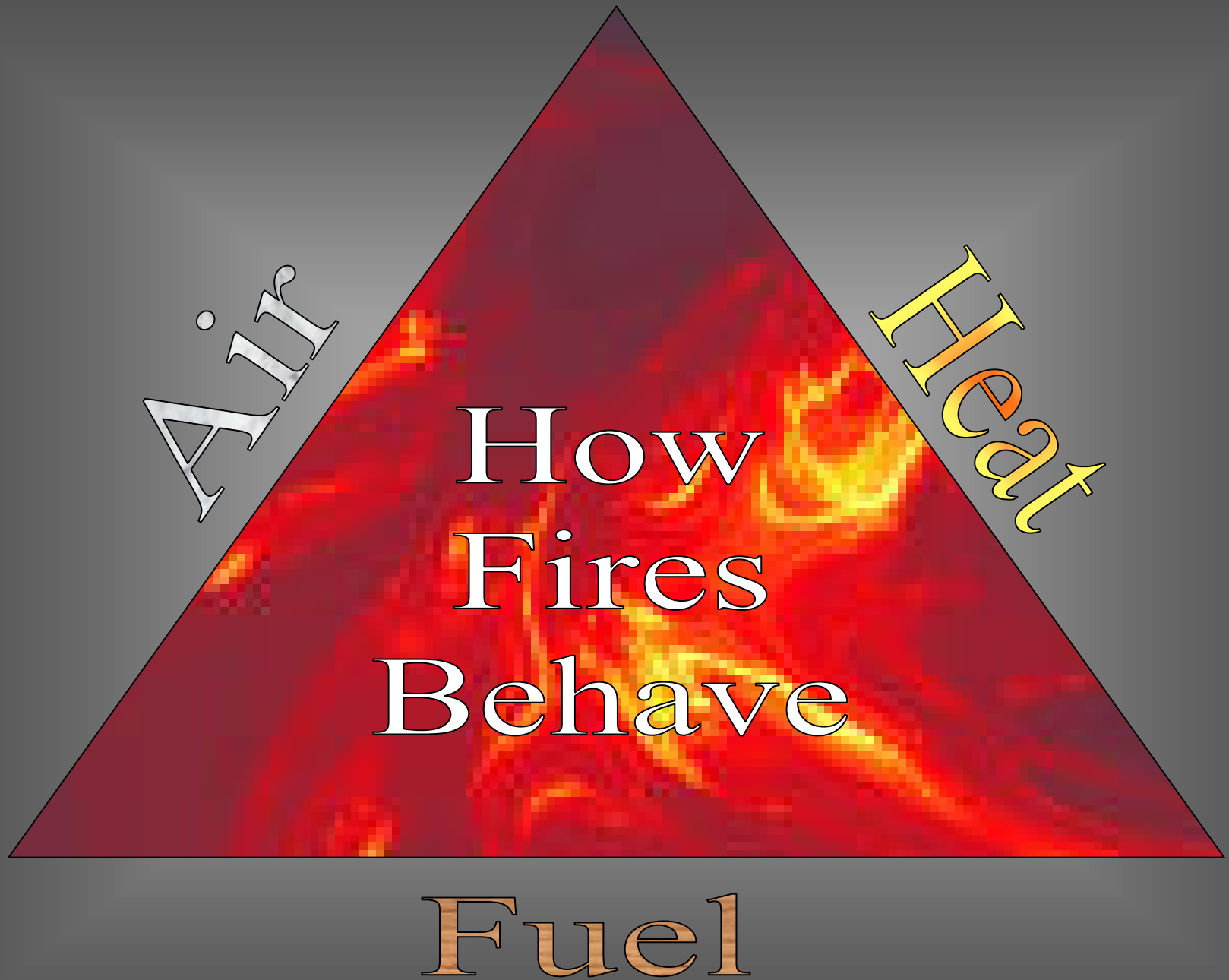


Northern Illinois
Fire Sprinkler
Advisory Board
www.firesprinklerassoc.org



Fire's Killing Attributes

- Smoke
 - CO binds faster in blood Hemoglobin than O_2
 - Suffocation even if sufficient O_2 is present
- Heat
 - Air contains super-heated mass of gases
 - What happens when inhaled?
 - Sears respiratory tract



The Majority of Components in Stables are Highly Flammable



Hay Fires

- Unique to the agricultural industry
- Ideal bale moisture 15 to 18%
- Wetter bales encourage microbe growth
- Hay is baled tightly and prohibits water penetration

Photo courtesy of Scott Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., Louisiana

Hay is mowed and baled



**Hay respiration
continues as hay
cures**



**High moisture
content**



**Mesophilic
microorganisms
grow and multiply**



Bale core heats up



**Thermophilic
microorganisms
grow and multiply**



Bale core heats up



Oxygen introduced



Bale ignites



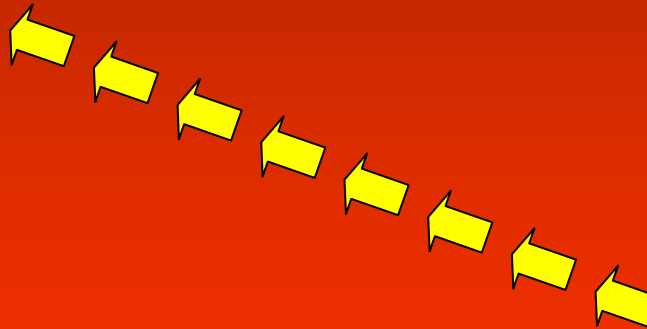
**Respiration decreases
properly cured**



Microorganisms die



**Bale temperature
cools**



Below 130°F	No problem.
130 to 140°F	No problem yet. Temperature may go up or down.
150°F	Temperature will most likely continue to climb.
175 to 190°F	Fire is imminent or may be present a short distance from the probe.
200°F	Fire is present at or near the probe.

Ogburn, C.B. Sept. 1995. *Guarding Against Hay Fires*, ANR-964. Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Engineering, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.

- www.agriculture.com/machinery
#8142 hay temperature probe sells for \$139.95 plus postage





Why are Hay Fires So **Dangerous?**

- *Chemically preserved hay can produce dangerous gases like HCN when burned!*
- *Bales may collapse under weight.*
- *It takes 40 gallons of water PER bale to extinguish hay fires!*



Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design

Structural Solutions

- Building materials

Rating systems for building materials

Comparison of material to standards (concrete & red oak)

Flame spread

- Lower rating, longer it will take flames to spread the fire

Smoke development

- Lower rating improves visibility, decreases noxious gases, decreases fire progression through smoke particles and hot gases

Fire rating

- How long (minutes) material contains fire
- Longer the progression, the greater chance rescue and fire suppression efforts will have at being successful

Is Metal Better?



Untreated Metal Fails Faster

www.reececenter.org



Wood Chars, forming a protective insulation



Structural Solutions

- Building materials
- Compartmentalization

Compartmentalization



Structural Solutions

- Building materials
- Compartmentalization
- Fire Ventilation/Building Ventilation







Structural Solutions

- Building materials
- Compartmentalization
- Fire Ventilation/Building Ventilation
- Fire Detection Devices

Unless your horses live in your home

Fire detection
devices were not
designed for
animal
environments

Dust will cause
residential
smoke detectors
to go off!



Do Not Use Residential Smoke Detectors in Stables

Structural Solutions

- Building materials
- Compartmentalization
- Fire Ventilation/Building Ventilation
- Fire Detection Devices
- Fire Suppression Devices

Fire Suppression Devices Range in Price

The cheapest device is to be sure your barn has a charged ABC fire extinguisher accessible



Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access

Accessibility

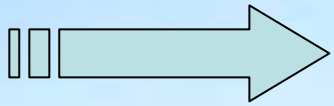
- Branches
- Bridges
- Lane width
- Turn around





Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns



Prevailing Winds

Emergency Accessibility??





Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns
- Species, numbers, genders and identification

Types of Horses



Heavy Draft Breeds
or “Cold Bloods”

Miniatures or “Mini’s”
(Under 34 inches tall)

Gender





Orphan Foals





Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns
- Species, numbers, genders and identification
- Individual Assessment



Animal Triage

**Emotional or Financial
Value Assessment**

Animal Temperament

Price Tag of Life

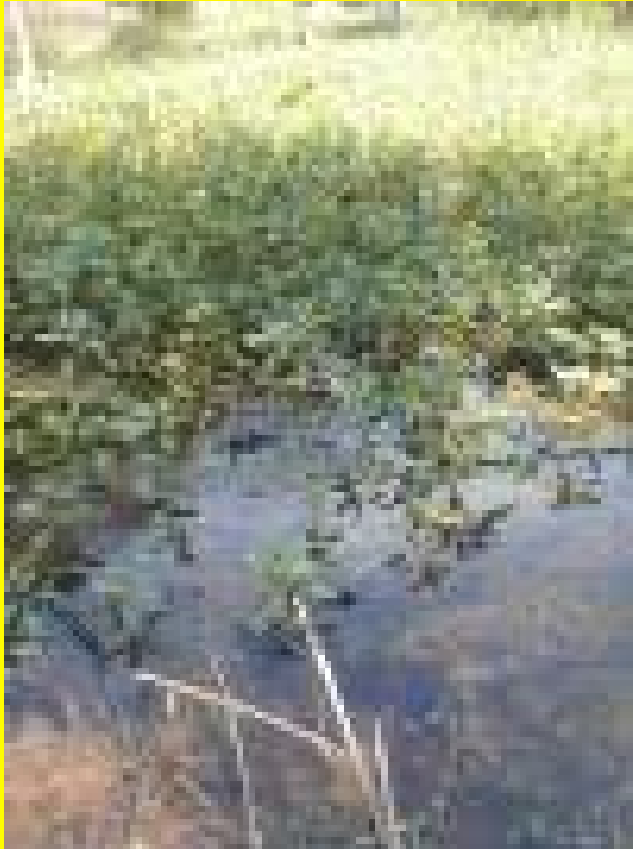
- PennDOT \$3,000,000
- FAA \$150,000



Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns
- Species, numbers, genders and identification
- Individual Assessment
- Resources

Where Will Water Come From?



Dry Hydrants



Develop an Emergency Box

- Halters (adjustable or correct size), Ropes, Chain
- Duct Tape
- Towel or Large Saddle Pad
- Humane Twitch
- Scat-Bat
- Ear Plugs or Nylons & Quilt Batting
- Vicks, Blindfold
- Feed
- Cow Marker or Spray Paint
- Health Papers???
- Flashlights & Batteries
- Gloves, Safety Vests
- Glow Sticks
- Permanent/Indelible Marker
- Knife
- Diapers
- Turkey Baster
- Basic First Aid Supplies
- Walkie-talkie, Radios
- Directions to Farm, Written Animal Inventory
- Important Phone Numbers
- Written Pre-Plan, Farm Layout



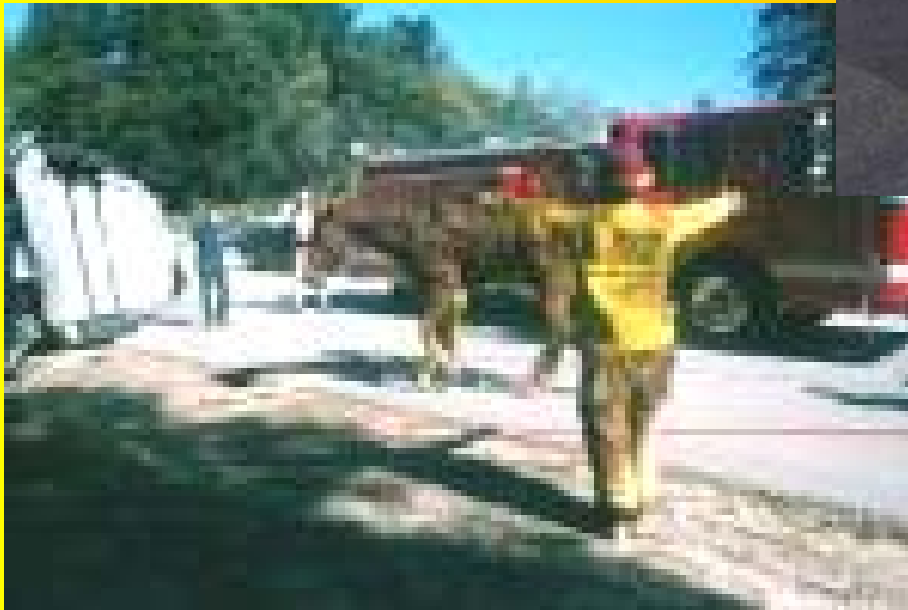
Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns
- Species, numbers, genders and identification
- Individual Assessment
- Resources
- Evacuation plan

Loose Animals are Dangerous



Never Turn Animals Loose





Train

Plan for Emergencies

Practice Your Plan



Animals Do Not Understand Fire Train Them During Drills



What you see



What the horse sees



Critique

Plan

Train

Empathy

Critique

Practice



Give Everyone a Job



Tracie Sillanpaa, left, and Klorissa Fitzpatrick, right, comfort horse owner Susan Gannon after Marquet Special died.
[Times photos: Brendan Fitterer]

Protect Your Emergency Service Personnel

Catch, Contain and Secure your Pets
ESPECIALLY DOGS, GOATS and PIGS!



These animals may get in the way or bite people
who have come to help you.

Pre-Plan Considerations

- Facility design
- Facility access
- Seasonal weather patterns
- Species, numbers, genders and identification
- Individual Assessment
- Resources
- Evacuation plan
- Biosecurity, emergency care costs and authority

Euthanasia

Who is willing to respond?

Who decides?

Who is competent enough
to decide?

What is the most humane
method?

Who is liable?

Who pays the bill?



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep grass around facility mowed. Use gravel instead of mulch around buildings



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep grass around facility mowed. Use gravel instead of mulch around buildings
- Store hay and bedding away from stable



Photo courtesy of Sherrie Grady

Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep grass around facility mowed. Use gravel instead of mulch around buildings
- Store hay and bedding away from stable
- Store combustibles properly and away from stable



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep grass around facility mowed. Use gravel instead of mulch around buildings
- Store hay and bedding away from stable
- Store combustibles properly and away from stable
- Remove ignition sources from stable (dryers, heaters, machinery, heat tape)





**Post and
Enforce a No
Smoking Policy**

Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the barn clean and aisles clear

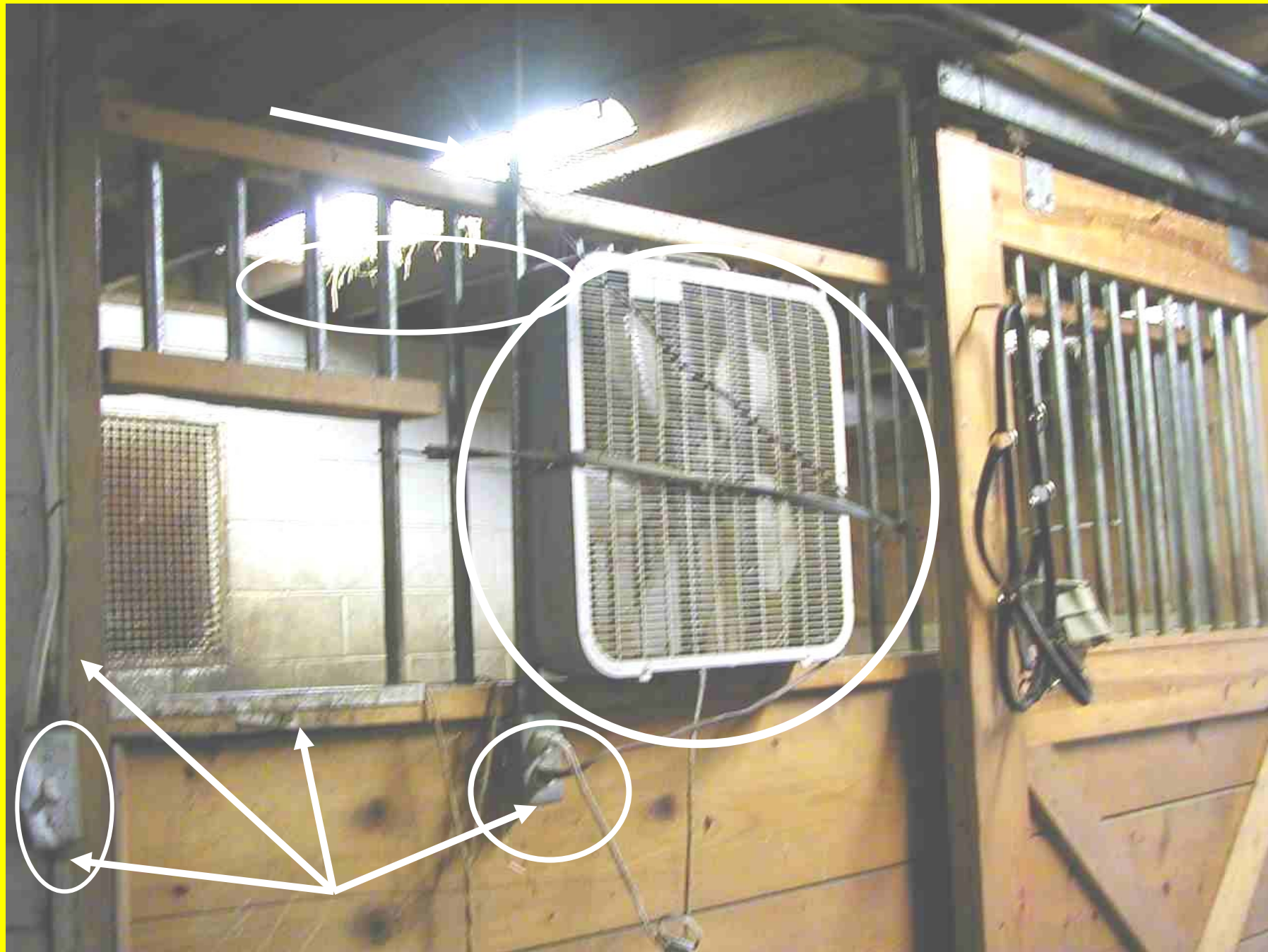
Be Clean!

Can you find the Fire Extinguisher?



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the barn clean and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the barn clean and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects
- Keep all exits clear

Keep All Exits Clear



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the clean neat and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects
- Keep all exits clear
- Keep all hardware in working order

**Stall
Hardware
can Save
Time**



If it is in good repair and working order!

Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the barn clean and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects
- Keep all exits clear
- Keep all hardware in working order
- Use agricultural grade wiring and fixtures



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the clean neat and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects
- Keep all exits clear
- Keep all hardware in working order
- Remove bird nests on light fixtures



Simple Solutions To Minimize Risk

- Keep the clean neat and aisles clear
- Check all walls and remove protruding objects
- Keep all exits clear
- Keep all hardware in working order
- Remove bird nests on light fixtures
- Have air terminals installed and checked

All Barns Should Have Lightning Protection



Have Air Terminals (Lightning Rods) Installed & Checked Annually!

To find a certified installer in your area contact:

Lightning Protection Institute
3335 N. Arlington Hts. Rd.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
1-800-488-6864
www.lightning.org



Responding to an Incident

SURVEY THE SCENE!

NEVER

Enter A Burning Building

Unless you are a

TRAINED FIREMAN

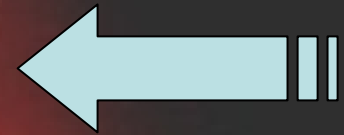
And

HAVE THE PROPER

EQUIPMENT!

Smoke, Heat and Fire Kill






Wind Direction







First Fireman on
the Scene is
the
Boss
By
LAW

R.R.C.E.

- 
- **R**escue if Safe

Alert 911

- **C**ontain the Fire
- **E**xtinguish the Fire



A photograph of a snowy forest path. The path is covered in a thick layer of snow, with some tracks visible. The trees are evergreens, heavily laden with snow, creating a dense, white canopy. The lighting is soft, suggesting an overcast day. The overall scene is peaceful and serene.

Keep your facility accessible

Photo courtesy of Dawn Hulslander-Mallare

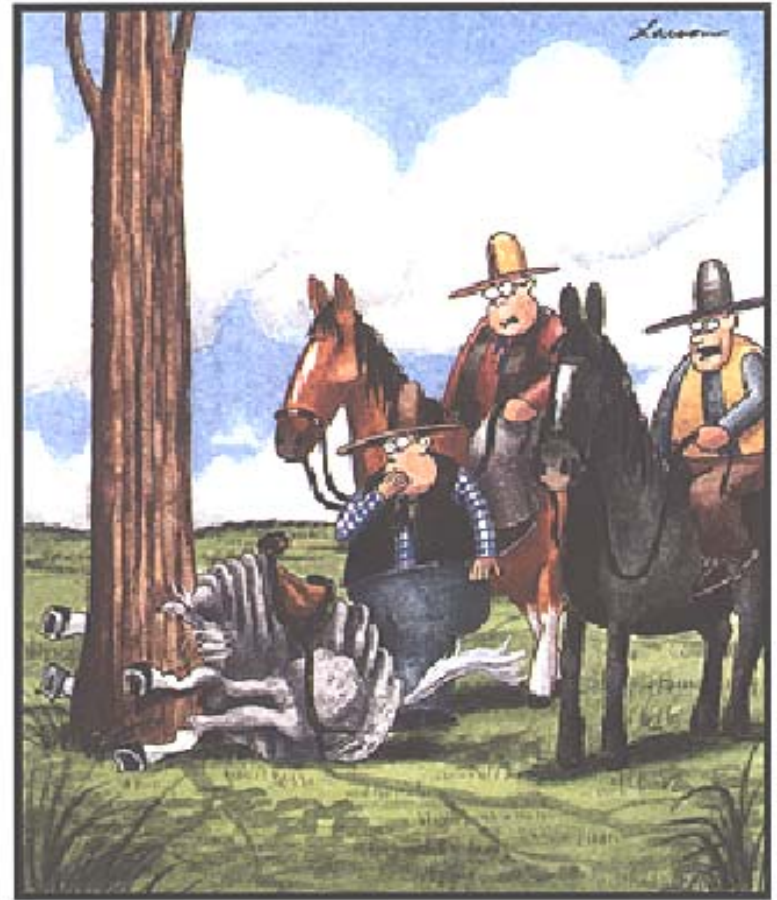


- Regularly inspect premises for hazards and take prompt corrective measures.
- Keep your barn and equipment in good maintenance and clean.



- Develop an emergency box and keep it handy.
- Develop a disaster plan and practice it regularly.
- Train your horse for disasters.

- Make a list of important phone numbers and information
- Put copies in your emergency box and by EACH phone
- Learn first aid and CPR



"What are you gonna tell your Dad?"



Is there any more we can feed you?