Fire Prevention

Presented BY: Treaty 7 Urban Indian Housing Authority

Introduction

- The purpose of this workshop is to ensure our tenants are taking proper precautions to prevent a fire in the units.
- We will discuss best practices, things the TROs and maintenance see when inspecting units and how to use a fire extinguisher.
- We want tenants to be informed and educated by the end of this presentation and ensure best practices are implemented in your homes.

What is Fire Safety?

- Fire safety is the set of practices intended to reduce or prevent destruction caused from a fire.
- Some of these practices include:
 - ► Fire extinguisher in the home
 - Not smoking in units
 - Evacuation plan
 - Educating your household on the importance of fire safety.



How Home Fires Start

- Most home fires start when an open flame or heat source is left unattended.
- Some of the common causes include the following:
 - Leaving a hot stove turned on
 - Burning candles left unattended
 - Failing to butt out a cigarette
- In as little as 30 seconds, a small flame can grow into a dangerous fire. Within minutes, an entire home can be filled with black smoke and large flames.
- During winter months heating equipment like portable space heaters are the leading cause of home fires.

Fire Hazards We See

- Tenants leaving piles of clothing closely to the furnace.
- Hoarding of various items in basements/lower levels and around furnace areas.
 - This makes it difficult to maneuver around basements/lower levels of units and can cause issues during an evacuation.

Tenants not cleaning lint traps and venting

Actions To Prevent Fires

- Clean range hood and cooking area from grease with soap and water.
- Ensure children do not stick any toys or other items in electrical outlets.
- Electrical outlets should be checked to ensure they are not worn or loose.
- Our units are non-smoking so tenants should not be smoking indoors.
 - If smoking outdoors please ensure cigarette butts are put out without any burning embers.
 - Do not throw a still burning cigarette butt in grassy area, near fences or the home.
- Clean laundry room lint traps regularly.

Actions to Prevent Fires

- Keep highly combustible materials (example: rubbing alcohol, nail polish remover, hand sanitizer) stored away in containers at room temperature.
- These should be stored away from any heat sources which include:
 - Sunlight
 - Hot water heater
 - Space heater
 - Furnace pilot light
- Don't leave candles unattended.
- Don't leave cooking unattended.

Smoke Alarms

- Tenants should regularly check and test their smoke alarms to ensure the smoke alarm is in good working condition.
 - Smoke alarms should be checked monthly
- Tenants should ensure they regularly change the batteries on all smoke alarms.



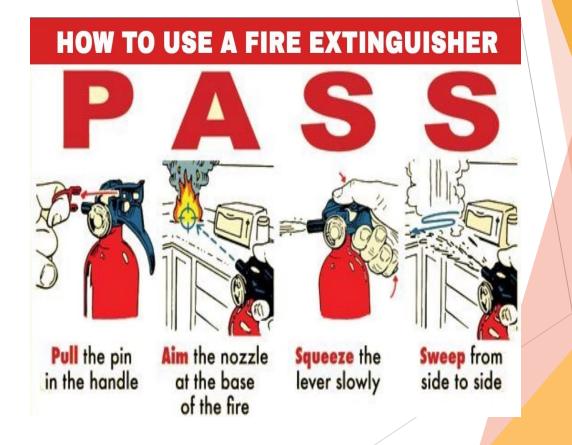
Using a Fire Extinguisher

- Every unit has been equipped with a 5 pound amerex fire extinguisher.
- Tenants should only use these for small fires.
- Knowing how to use the fire extinguisher can prevent a small fire from turning into a larger more serious fire.



Using a Fire Extinguisher

- Use the P.A.S.S method to properly use a fire extinguisher.
- If fire is getting out of control evacuate the unit and call 9-1-1
- Never try to re-enter a home that you evacuated.



Emergency Planning

Tenants should have an emergency plan in the event of emergencies.

► First Aid kit

- Locations of fire extinguishers and water utilities
- Fires and other emergency situations may require evacuation of the unit.
 - ► Have an evacuation plan in place and review it with your children
- All emergencies should be reported to the authorities, do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 for fires and other emergencies.
- Communitysafetynet.com
 - Resources on fire and emergencies for kids and adults
- https://indd.adobe.com/view/03814efa-a93e-4ef7-82f1-3f21194ebcef

Resources

- City of Lethbridge Fire and Emergency Services
 - Phone: 311 or 403-320-3211 (if outside of Lethbridge)
 - Emergencies: 911
 - Website: <u>https://www.lethbridge.ca/emergency-services-public-safety/fire-and-emergency-services/</u>
- City of Calgary Fire Department
 - Phone: 311 or 403-268-2498 (if outside of Calgary)
 - Emergencies: 911
 - Website: <u>https://www.calgary.ca/categories/subcategory-calgaryfiredepartment-grid.html</u>

Basic Home Maintenance Discussion

- Basic Home Maintenance:
 - Fill up P-traps to prevent gases.
 - Keep Drain clear in basement.
 - Eaves troughs/downspouts extensions need to be flipped out.
 - Don't flush baby wipes and toys in toilets.
 - Shut off valve, main water supply.
 - Loose door knobs.
 - Plugged sink and toilets, do not drain oils and grease in sinks.
 - Loose electrical outlets/plugs.
 - Clean behind faucets in kitchen and bathroom.

Questions?