

Fire Extinguishers

In accordance with Department of Homeland Security Educational Services and the Office of Fire Prevention and Control, all campus buildings are equipped with portable fire extinguishers.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) compliance guidelines for St. Bonaventure require that in the event of fire or a fire alarm, the building(s) impacted be evacuated for the utmost in community and personal safety. Safety and Security officers and fire department responders are trained in the use of fire extinguishers should the need arise.

In the spirit of educating the community and the general public information, however, we have added the procedure for safely using fire extinguishers here.

Proper Procedure For Using a Fire Extinguisher

Before using, make sure:

1. 911 has been notified
2. All others in the building have been alerted
3. Evacuation has begun
4. You have a clear escape route
5. You are familiar with how to use a fire extinguisher
6. The extinguisher you have is appropriate for the type of fire (see front of the extinguisher)

Class of Fires/Extinguishers

A = Solids: wood, paper, tires, etc.

B = Liquids such as gasoline or petroleum oils

C = Electrical appliances

D = Flammable metals such as magnesium

K = Vegetable oils/cooking grease

Once the above has been determined, use the PASS acronym:

P = Pull the pin from the extinguisher

A = Aim the extinguisher hose at the base of the fire; never get closer than 8 to 10 feet away

S = Squeeze the extinguisher handle

S = Sweep back and forth with the nozzle at the base of the fire

Note: Tampering with or disturbing, blocking or altering a fire extinguisher without a fire or cause is a crime punishable by a fine and/or a jail term.