FIRE SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE

Fire safety isn't just something to think about during wildfire season—it's a year-round priority. While the most obvious risks are injury or death, fires can also wipe out entire businesses. Sadly, many businesses destroyed by fire never reopen, meaning those jobs and income are gone for good.

TIPS FOR A FIRE SAFE WORKPLACE:

- **WAYS TO PREVENT A WORKPLACE FIRE**

- **WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A FIRE**

BC Forest Safety

Safety is **good** business

FIRE SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE

WAYS TO PREVENT A WORKPLACE FIRE:

Fire safety is everyone's responsibility. We all need to be alert to anything that could cause a fire, and take responsibility to report any problem areas so they can be corrected.
Here are some simple but important ways to help prevent fires:

- **Keep it clean**: Good housekeeping matters. Clutter can fuel fires and block emergency exits or emergency equipment.
- **Use hot work permits**: Always complete them properly, remove flammable materials and follow safe work procedures.
- **Dispose of oily rags safely**: Use designated oily rag bins and empty them daily.
- **Maintain equipment**: Regularly service machinery to prevent overheating or sparks from friction.
- **Report electrical issues**: Faulty wiring and malfunctioning equipment are major fire risks. Never attempt repairs unless you're qualified and authorized.
- **Keep electrical panels clear**: Don't store anything in front of them—quick access is critical in an emergency.
- **Be cautious in explosive environments**: Use non-sparking tools and control static electricity when working around flammable vapours or combustible dust.
- **Smoke safely**: Only smoke in designated areas and fully extinguish materials. Never smoke near storerooms or chemical storage.
- **Don't block safety systems**: Keep sprinklers, fire extinguishers and emergency exits clear. Follow stacking clearance rules.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A FIRE:

It's important to know exactly what to do if a fire breaks out. Being prepared can save lives.

- **Know the plan**: Understand your company's emergency procedures and your role during an evacuation.
- **Sound the alarm**: If you see a fire, pull the fire alarm immediately to alert others.
- **Evacuate safely**: Head to the designated muster point outside the building.
- **Use extinguishers only if trained**: If you're trained and it's safe, you may attempt to put out a small fire using the correct type of extinguisher. Always keep a clear escape route. If the fire isn't out after one extinguisher, evacuate immediately.
- **Shut down equipment**: If it's safe and part of your emergency plan, turn off machinery or process equipment as you leave.
- **Take drills seriously**: Fire drills are practice for the real thing— they help save lives and protect property.

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