

# Procedures for Extinguishing Small Fires

## Putting out Small Fires

- Remove the **heat** - for example, cool it with water.
- Remove the **air** - for example, smother it.
- Remove the **fuel** - for example, shut off the natural gas.

## Procedures for Extinguishing Fires Following Earthquakes:

- Natural Gas Fires - First, shut off the gas. Second, put the fire out by using an extinguisher, dirt or water.
- Electrical Fires - First, shut off the electricity. Second, put out the fire by using an extinguisher, dirt or water.

[CAUTION: If the electricity cannot be shut off, DO NOT use water on the fire.]

- Oil or Grease Fires - Use baking soda, a lid, a bread board or a fire extinguisher to smother the flames. NEVER use water on a grease/oil fire.

## Procedures for Using a Fire Extinguisher

- Remain calm.
- VITAL: Keep an escape route open between you and the **small** fire you are attempting to extinguish. If the fire is large or becomes too large, get out of your house immediately. Close the door on your way out to slow the spread of the flames.
- Always point the extinguisher at the base of the fire rather than at the top of the flames.
- Squeeze or press the handle, and slowly sweep the fire from side to side until it goes out.
- Remember, if the fire is too big for you to handle, get yourself and your family out of the house immediately. Don't stop to get anything or do anything. Seconds can make a difference.
- Once you are outside, stay outside. Intense heat and toxic fumes can kill you in seconds.