

April 1, 2009

Fire Extinguishers: Spring Clean-Up!

It's that time of the year when spring cleanup is in full effect. This year when you are cleaning your home or workplace, take a look at the year of manufacture on your portable fire extinguisher. If it is more than six years old, it is required by the Ontario Fire Code that it is serviced. It is very important to keep up to date on the servicing of fire extinguishers, as they could help save your property from unnecessary damage. Lack of maintenance could lead to pressure leaks, corrosion or caking of the internal dry chemical (depending on the type of extinguisher).

7.1.1. Responsibility. The owner or designated agent or occupant of a property in which fire extinguishers are located shall be responsible for inspection, maintenance and recharging.

| Extinguisher | Visual Inspection | Certified Inspection | Six Year Maintenance | Hydrostatic Testing |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Water -Type | Monthly | Yearly | Not Applicable | Every Five Years* |
| Carbon Dioxide | Monthly | Yearly | Not Applicable | Every Five Years* |
| Dry Chemical / Dry Powder | Monthly | Yearly | Every Six Years* | Every Twelve Years* |

*From the Manufactures Date

Remember P-A-S-S to Operate a Portable Fire Extinguisher

- P** Pull the pin
- A** Aim the extinguisher or nozzle at the base of the fire
- S** Squeeze the handle and release the extinguishing agent
- S** Sweep the extinguisher from side to side across the base of the fire until it appears to be out

