



# FIRE SAFETY

Equine Guelph Horse Behaviour & Safety Workshop

# **FIRE!**

- **Top causes of fire**
- **What you can do to prevent it**

# POP QUIZ!

Fire extinguishers are an important safety tool.  
The arrow is pointing to the :

- A.) Pin
- B.) Gauge
- C.) Pick up Tube
- D.) Handle



**The arrow is pointing to the :**

*Answer – C: Pick up Tube*

**Fire extinguishers  
are an important  
safety tool.**



# Fire extinguishers

Is there a fire extinguisher in your barn?

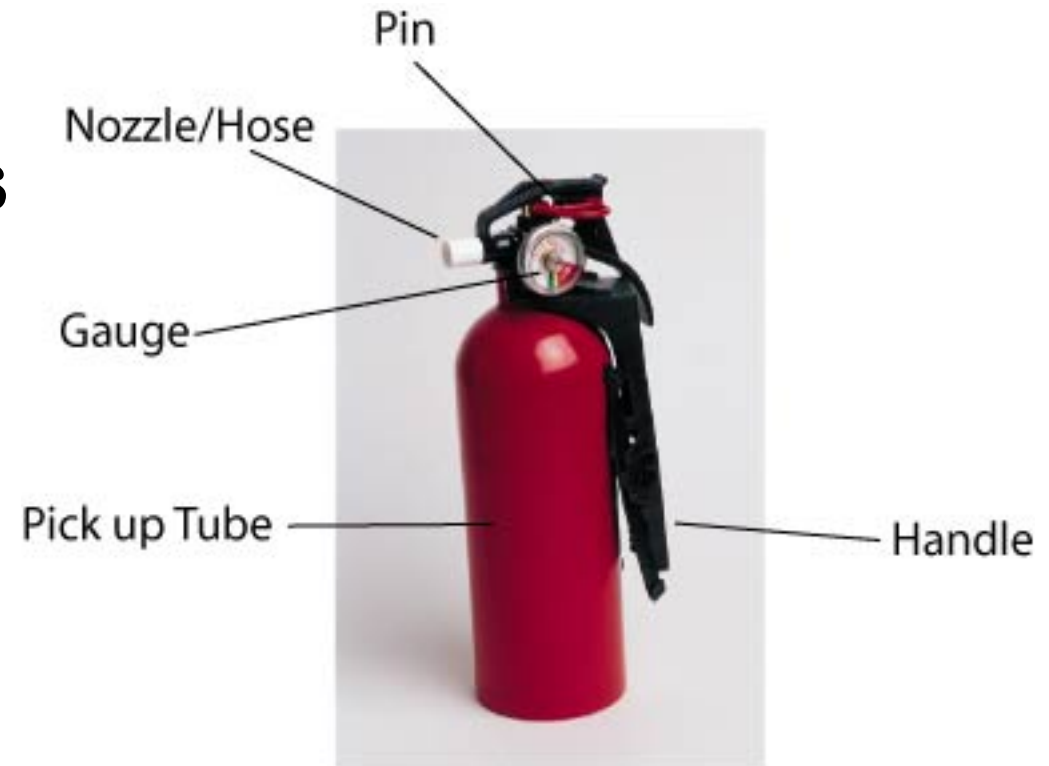
Does it work?

Do you know how to use it?



# Fire extinguishers

## Know the parts



# POP QUIZ!

How many fire extinguishers should you have in your barn?

- A.) One is enough
- B.) Better to have it in a building nearby
- C.) One for every entrance / exit
- D.) None of the above



# How many fire extinguishers should you have in your barn?

**Answer – C: One (ABC type) for every entrance / exit**





**Did you know?**

**A fire extinguisher should be checked  
once a month**



## 5 point inspection:

1. Is pin in place?
2. Is plastic wire in place?
3. Is yellow arrow in green area?
4. Is nozzle tight & clear?
5. Is cylinder in good shape?



To operate an Extinguisher

Remember the **PASS** word



**Stand 6 to 8 feet away from fire:**

**P**ull the pin out

**A**im low

**S**queeze the lever below the handle press

**S**weep from side to side

# Fire Prevention Check List

## Entrance to Stable

- display property number clearly
- wide entrance
- wide driveway
- reasonable distance from parking area to stable entrance
- "no smoking" sign

# Fire Prevention Check List

## Barn Interior

- second entrance/exit
- all entrances/exits are unblocked
- safe storage of paints and chemicals (should be at least 50 feet from barn)

# Fire Prevention Check List

## Wiring

- extensions cords: are for temporary use only
- extension cords should be heavy duty 3 prong, not household cords
- proper conduit and wiring
- cords resting on nails will wear and "arc and spark"
- avoid pinching of wiring
- avoid octopus wiring
- outlets should be covered

# Fire Prevention Check List

## Lighting and Wiring

- use proper bulbs
- cover all bulbs
- use proper conduit and wiring
- fix any loose electrical boxes
- clean dust & cobwebs
- do not splice extension cords



# Fire Prevention Check List

## Storage of Unsafe materials

- store gas and other flammable materials in a separate storage area
- Gas vapours are heavier than air:
  - Will drop to floor and cover whole area before climbing
  - Climbing vapours could ignite if come in contact with unsafe electrical source

# Fire Prevention Check List

## **Safe evacuation of horses**

- remove horses only if safe to do so in a timely manner
- once outside horse must be secured
- practice safe removal with your horse

## **Providing water in winter**

- use approved heated buckets
- use properly installed electrical source  
(no extension cords)

# Fire Prevention Check List

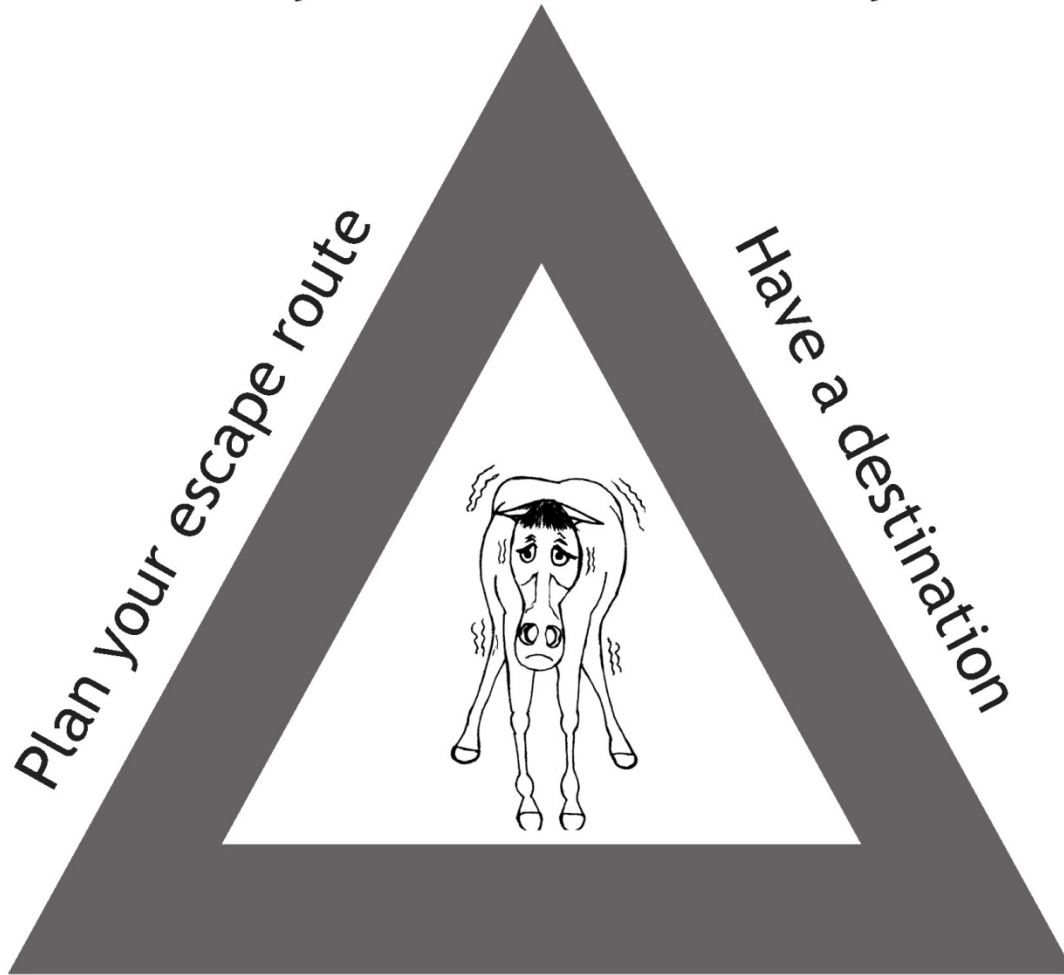
## Hay Storage

- ensure hay and bedding is dry before storage
- wet hay and bedding will heat during storage and could spontaneously combust
- store in a separate building at least 50 feet from barn

## Use of fans and heaters

- plug unit directly into outlet
- ensure cord is hanging freely (no pinching) and is not against any combustible material
- use only safe heaters for barn use without open coils

Always work with a Buddy



# If a Fire - Speed Is Primary

- Horses have delicate respiratory systems
- Smoke will overcome a horse in a very short time
- ONCE YOU HAVE A HORSE OUT OF A STALL, **SHUT THE DOOR**
- If there are more stalls, shut them ALL once the horses are out

# Getting a Horse Out

- **BE SAFE! WORK WITH A BUDDY!**
- If the horse is facing the door, try to put on a halter from outside the stall
- If the horse is facing away from the door, talk to him as you step into the stall, then halter him, and turn him toward you to face the door
- **DO NOT** OPEN THE DOOR UNTIL YOU HAVE A FIRM GRIP ON YOUR ROPE!

# Obstacles Around a Barn

- Hay bales
- Carts
- Cleaning materials
- ..... And more

# Do Horses Really Return to their Stalls?

- If a horse is regularly stabled, he will return to his stall in a burning barn
- This is a safe place; this is **HIS** space
- This is where food is available
- Outside is chaos – his stall is where he will seek security



# Write a Fire Plan and Drill

Remember, planning ahead will reduce risk of a fire in your stable. Contact your local fire department and conduct an audit of your facility today.

# Final Words



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Thank You!