FACTS
According to the U.S. Fire Administration, in a recent year there were nearly 1,300,000 fires in the U.S., and they caused nearly 3,300 deaths, 16,000 injuries, and nearly $12 billion in losses/damages.

HOT TIPS
for Dealing with Fire

• Sound the fire alarm
• Call the fire department
• Keep your back to an escape path free of fire, heat, or smoke
• Get your fire extinguisher ready
  • Operate the extinguisher using the P.A.S.S. technique
    - PULL the pin to release the locking mechanism
    - AIM the hose nozzle at the fire’s base
    - SQUEEZE the handle to spray the extinguishing agent
    - SPRAY from side to side at fire’s base until it’s out
• Back away from an extinguished fire in case it flames up again
• Evacuate immediately if:
  - the extinguisher is empty and the fire is not out
  - the fire progresses beyond the incipient stage
  - there’s any doubt about your ability to fight the fire

Evaluate the Situation Before Fighting a Fire

• Is the fire small enough that you can put it out safely?
• Have you been trained to properly use a fire extinguisher?
• Is a fire extinguisher within easy reach?
• Is the air safe to breathe?
• Is there too much smoke and heat?
• Is the extinguisher fully charged and large enough?
• Will you be putting yourself or others at risk by staying to fight the fire?

For more information on this and other safety topics, please log on to the member-exclusive website at nsc.org