



## *The First Ten Plays*

### REDUCING YOUR THREAT FROM FIRE\*

- **Test your home fire detectors at least twice a year and replace the batteries at least once a year. If the units use house current, make sure the backup battery is changed. If there is none, install other units that are battery operated in case a fire starts during a power outage.**
- **Write an evacuation plan for your home and practice it. If you have a family, make sure all of them know two ways out of every room, if possible. If you live alone, especially in an apartment complex or high rise, practice with your neighbors and learn their limitations.**
- **Learn the basic use of a fire extinguisher, including the limitations of the various types available where you live and work. You can cause a fire to spread faster if you use an extinguisher in the wrong way and on the wrong kinds of fire. Have you ever tried to lift a commercial extinguisher from the wall? Use the “hand outstretched” rule of thumb for response.**
- **If you have fire extinguishers in place, make sure they are fully charged. If they are inspected by someone, make sure the inspection tag on the extinguisher is up to date.**
- **Know the evacuation routes at your place of work, at other buildings you visit, and at hotels you stay at during travel. Ask the building managers about their fire safety practices and how they assist in evacuations.**
- **Keep an extinguisher safely stored and secured in your vehicle.**
- **Teach stop, drop, and roll to your family, especially young children:**  
<http://www.deltafire.ca/Preschoolers.htm>
- **Do a fire safety assessment of your office, home, and yard each year. That includes safe storage of chemicals and clearing a defensible space. In business that includes knowing what your neighbors store onsite.**
- **Take a first aid course so you can treat burns and help resuscitate people in the correct manner.**
- **Support the placement of more fire connections/plugs in your community. Adopt the care and protection of the ones nearest you.**

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*\* These are not listed in order of importance but as a group of materials that will increase the possibility of positive outcomes.*