

Community Emergency Response Training

Unit 3: Fire Safety



Introduction and Unit Overview

The role of CERTs in fire safety:

- Put out small fires.
- Prevent additional fires.
- Shutoff utilities
- Assist with evacuations where necessary.



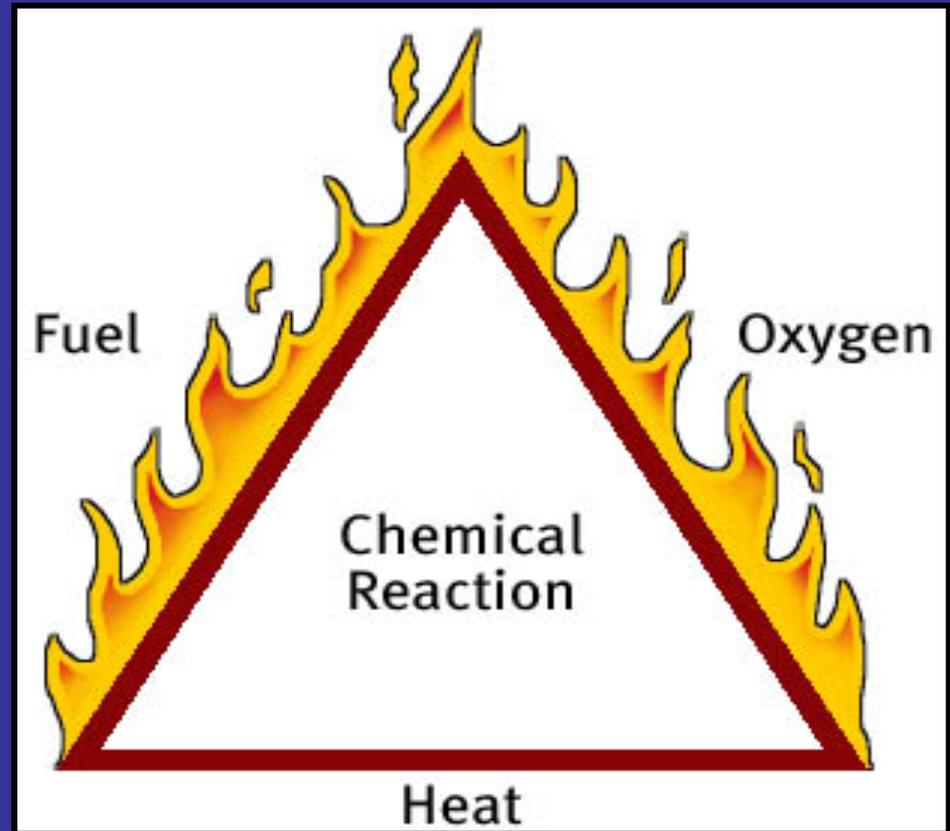
Unit Objectives

- Explain the role of CERTs in fire safety.
- Identify and reduce potential fire risks in the home and workplace.
- Conduct a basic sizeup for a fire emergency.
- Understand basic safety precautions.
- Identify hazardous materials in the home and community.
- Extinguish small fires using a fire extinguisher.



The Fire Triangle

- Heat
- Fuel
- Oxygen



Fire Chemistry

Classes of fire:

A: Ordinary combustibles

B: Flammable and combustible liquids

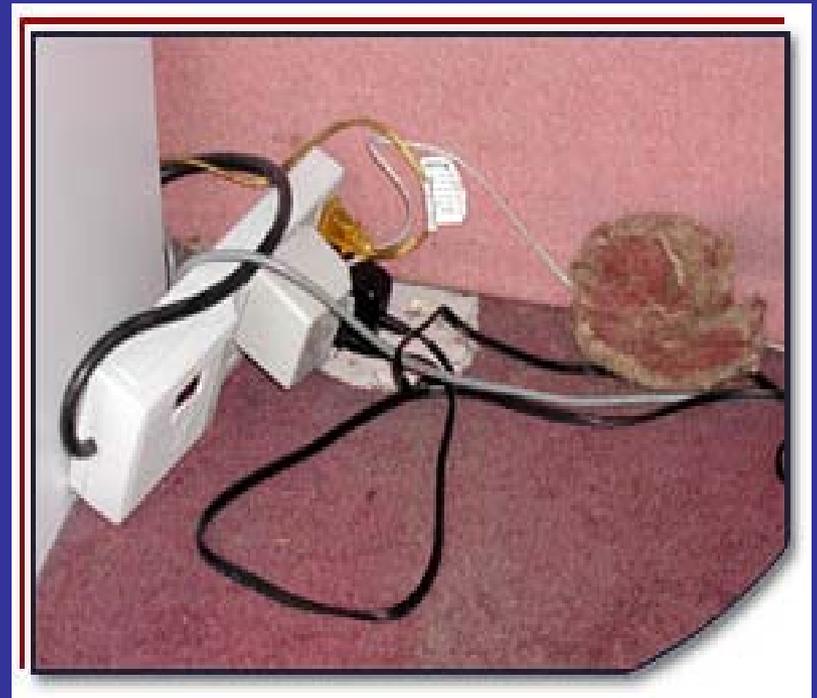
C: Energized electrical equipment

D: Combustible metals



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- Avoid the “electrical octopus”
- Don’t run cords under carpets
- Replace broken or frayed cords
- Maintain appliances



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- Install a natural gas detector
- Locate and label gas shutoffs



Reducing Fire Hazards in Home and Workplace

- Read labels
- Use L.I.E.S. storage procedures (Limit, Isolate, Eliminate, Separate)



CERT sizeup

Answer these questions:

- Can my buddy and I fight the fire safely?
- Do we have the right equipment?
- Are there other hazards?
- Is the building structurally damaged?
- Can we escape?



CERT Sizeup

1. Gather Facts
2. Assess Damage
3. Consider Probabilities
4. Assess Your Situation
5. Establish Priorities
6. Make Decisions
7. Develop Action Plan
8. Take Action
9. Evaluate Progress



Firefighting Resources

Resources available:

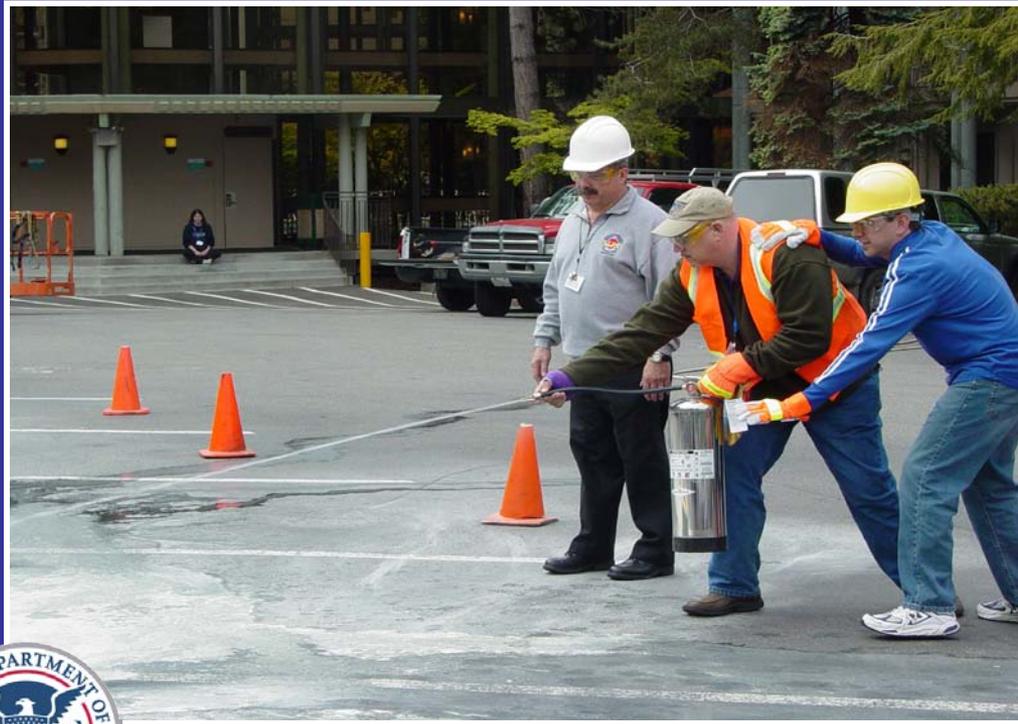
- Portable fire extinguishers
- Wet standpipes
- Confinement
- “Creative resources”



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Types of Fire Extinguishers

- Water
- Dry chemical
- Carbon dioxide
- Specialized



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P.A.S.S

- Pull
- Aim
- Squeeze
- Sweep



Test the extinguisher before approaching any fire

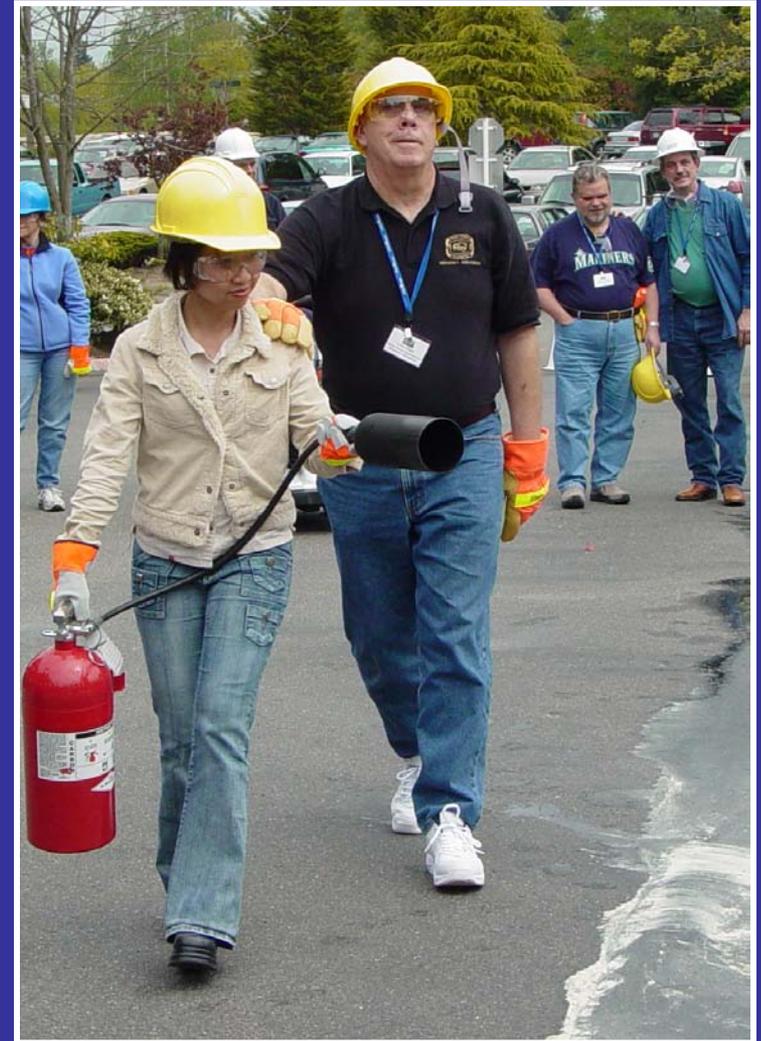


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Fire Suppression Safety

Do:

- Use safety equipment
- Work in a buddy system
- Have a backup team
- Have two ways to exit
- Maintain a safe distance
- Overhaul the fire



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Fire Suppression Safety

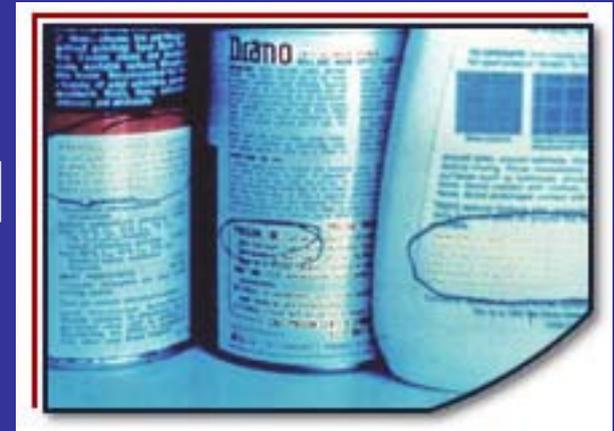
DON'T

- Try to suppress large fires
 - Get too close
 - Fight it alone
- Enter smoke-filled areas

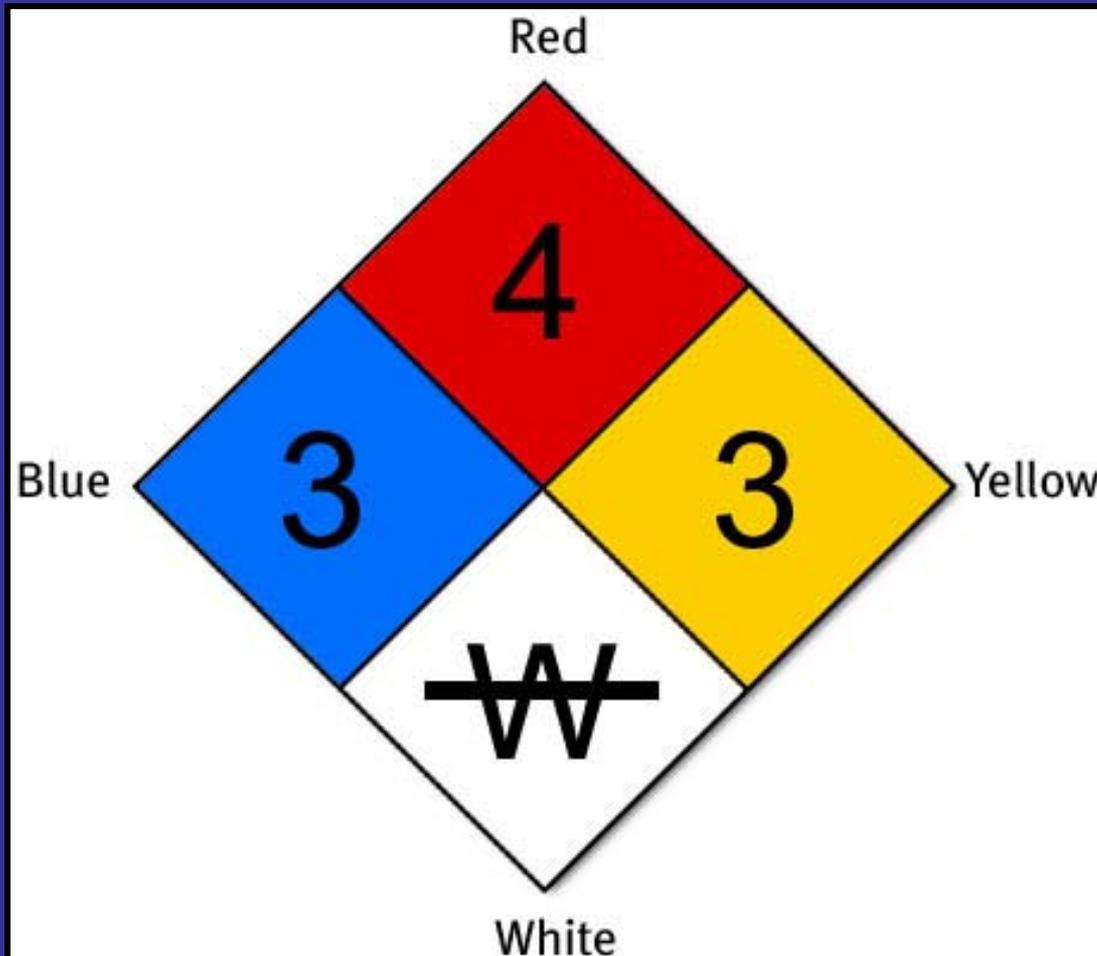


Hazardous Materials . . .

- Corrode other materials
- Explode or are easily ignited
- React strongly with water
- Are unstable when exposed to heat or shock
- Are toxic to humans, animals, or the environment



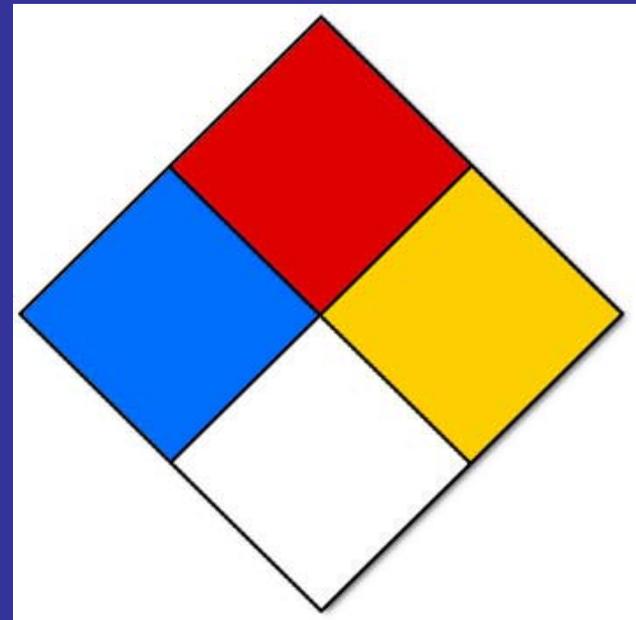
Identifying Stored Hazardous Materials



Identifying Stored Hazardous Materials

NFPA 704 Diamond-White Quadrant:

- **W** Shows unusual reactivity with water
- **OX** Possesses oxidizing properties



Identifying Hazardous Materials in Transit

Orange



Red



White



Red



Red & White



Red & White



Blue



Yellow



White



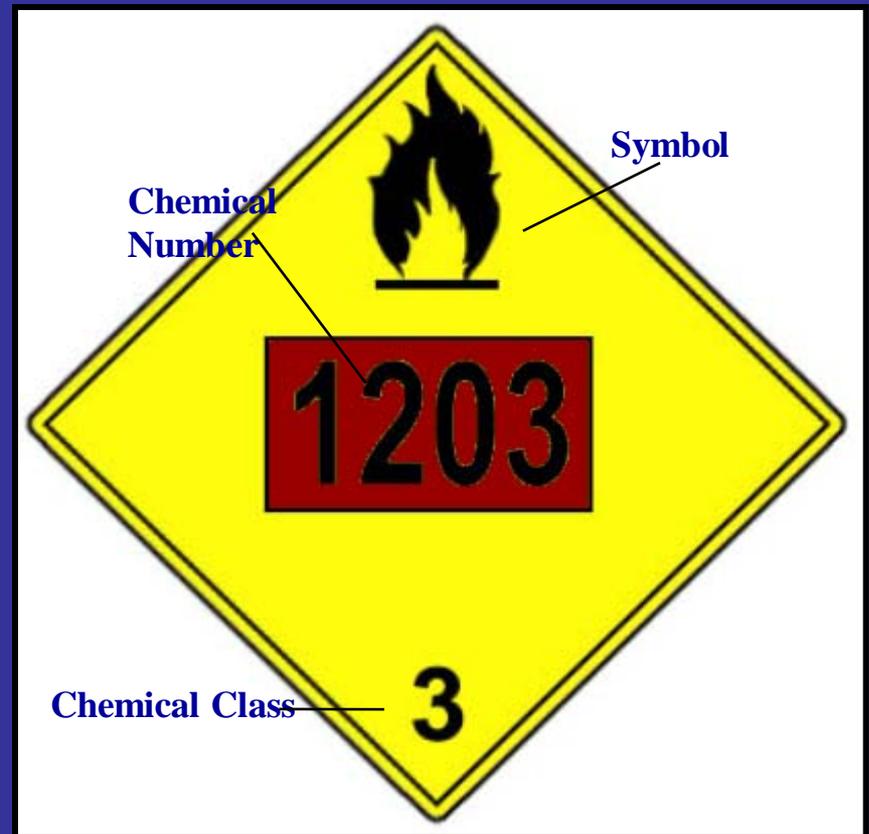
Yellow & White



Black & White



Identifying Hazardous Materials in Transit





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