



FIRE SAFETY

Fire is one of the most common risks at public events - from cigarette butt fires to faulty electrics and catering mishaps. It is essential that events have sufficient firefighting equipment onsite and an adequate number of people trained in their operation. This fact sheet will help you understand best practice around fire safety at your event.

Fire Safety, Council Requirements

- In accordance with WorkSafe recommendations, Council requires that all marquees (where gas or electrical appliances are being used) have at least one appropriately rated fire extinguisher. This recommendation also applies to food trucks or temporary structures fitted out with electrical equipment and any generators.
- For catering marquees or food trucks a fire blanket is required where deep fryers are installed.
- Additional fire extinguishers must also be placed where there are multiple food suppliers, amusement areas and the main activity area.
- For medium and large scale events it is best practice to create a **fire safety summary**. This may include details of:
 - Quantity, type and location of all firefighting equipment
 - Details of all staff trained in the use of firefighting equipment
 - Method you will use to check that all caterers/food vendors have appropriate firefighting equipment
 - Contingency plan if event falls on a day of total fire ban day. Some Council sites do not allow events or activities to operate on days that have been declared Total Fire Ban days, such as all bushland reserves, including Blackburn Lake. Please speak with the Event Officer for more information.

Hazard	Fire Fighting Equipment required
Gas fired BBQ	4.5kg dry powder type fire extinguisher (ABE)
Deep fryer (chips, donuts etc.)	4.5kg dry powder type fire extinguisher (ABE) or wet chemical type fire extinguisher and a fire blanket
Food warmer	4.5kg dry powder type fire extinguisher (ABE)
LPG cylinder store or decanting area (less than 1000 litres total gas stored)	4.5kg dry powder type fire extinguisher (ABE)
LPG cylinder store or decanting area (more than 1000 litres total gas stored)	4.5kg dry powder type fire extinguisher (ABE) or carbon dioxide type fire extinguisher.

To see what the most appropriate fire extinguisher is for each type of fire, please see attached table.

Save Lives before Property

If you or your event staff are not confident in the use of firefighting equipment, the best course of action is to evacuate and secure the area and call the fire brigade. Do not risk your own life to fight a fire if you are not trained in the use of fire extinguishers.

Top Tip – Emergency planning

Always have a qualified first aid person onsite and fully stocked first aid kit available.

- Have plans in place to evacuate your event site if required
- Always call 000 if an emergency situation arises at your event.
- Have someone meet the emergency services vehicle at the gate and walk them into position.



Questions? Please contact the Events Officer on 9262 6352 or arts@whitehorse.vic.gov.au



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YES NO TYPE OF EXTINGUISHER Colour scheme - AS 1841.1 Pre 1997 Post 1997		A Wood, Paper & Plastic 	B Flammable & Combustible Liquids 	C Flammable Gases 	E Energised Electrical Equipment 	F Cooking Oils & Fats 	COMMENTS: Refer Appendix B of AS 2444
							Special Powders are available specifically for various types of metal fires. Seek expert advice.
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		*	*				Generally not suitable for outdoor fires. Suitable only for small fires.
							Dangerous if used on flammable liquid, energised electrical equipment and cooking oil/fat fires.
						*	Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment.
							Dangerous if used on energised electrical equipment.
			*	*			Check the characteristics of the specific extinguishant.
							Use blanket to wrap around a human torch. Ensure you replace the blanket with a new one after use.
							Ensure you maintain a path of egress between you and the nearest exit.

* Limited indicates that the extinguishant is not the agent of choice for the class of fire, but that it will have limited extinguishing capability.

*** Solvents which may mix with water, e.g. alcohol and acetone, are known as polar solvents and require special foam. These solvents break down conventional AFFF.

NOTE: Class D fires (involving combustible metal(s)) use only special purpose extinguishers and seek expert advice.



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