

## **Fire Extinguisher Maintenance**

The following guidance on maintaining fire extinguishers is provided by Bob Rexeisen, Deputy State Fire Marshal, Code Specialist. Guidance is given based upon Minnesota State Fire Code and National Fire Protection Association 10: Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers.

- The license holder must maintain a minimum 2A10BC fire extinguisher in the kitchen cooking area or area approved by the fire marshal.
- The fire extinguisher should be inspected monthly by the owner to ensure it is still in working order. This is accomplished by:
  - looking at the pressure gauge to ensure the needle is still in the green zone;
  - ensuring safety seals or tags are still in place;
  - ensuring there are no missing parts; and
  - ensuring the hose is still in good condition without any noticeable powder or residue inside the hose.
- If the fire extinguisher does not pass the monthly inspection by the owner, it should be serviced by an extinguisher maintenance company.
- The license holder must have the fire extinguisher serviced annually by an extinguisher maintenance company.
- After 5+ years, a fire extinguisher must have a hydrostatic pressure test or be replaced with a new fire extinguisher.

## **Miscellaneous**

- Carbon monoxide detectors must be within 10 feet of each sleeping room.
- Carbon monoxide detectors should be replaced every 5 years.
- Carbon monoxide detectors may be hard-wired, battery operated, or plugged into a wall outlet.
- Smoke detectors must be replaced every 10 years.
- Homes that add a fireplace must have another fire marshal inspection.