

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFIARS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFTY**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRE EXTINGUISHER IN ONE AND TWO FAMILY
DWELLINGS**

The Legislature amended and enacted P.L. 1991, c.92 (C.52:27D-198.1), requiring that all one and two family dwellings at change of occupancy be provided with a portable fire extinguisher, in addition to the requirements for smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. This provision does not apply to seasonal rental units. This act was signed into law April 14, 2005 with an effective date of November 1, 2005.

The regulations were recently made available for public comment. The comment period has ended and the final adoption of the regulations will appear in the New Jersey Register in the near future. The Division of Fire and Safety is advising all local enforcing agencies to enforce the regulations; using the guidelines below.

The requirement for types and placement of the extinguisher are as follows:

- At least one portable extinguisher shall be installed in one and two family dwellings (except seasonal rental units) upon change of occupancy.
- The extinguisher shall be listed, labeled, charged and operable.
- The size shall be no smaller than 2A:10B:C, rated for residential use and weigh no more than 10lbs.
- The hanger or brackets supplied by the manufacture must be used.
- The extinguisher must be located within 10 feet of the kitchen.
- The top of the extinguisher must not be more than 5 feet above the floor.
- The extinguisher must be visible and in a readily accessible location, free from being blocked by furniture, storage, or other items.
- The extinguisher must be near a room exit or travel path that provides an escape route to the exterior.
- The extinguisher must be accompanied by an owners manual or written information regarding the operation, inspection and maintenance of the extinguisher, and
- Lastly, the extinguisher must be installed with the operating instructions clearly visible.