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# News Release

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**Contact:** Ted Martin, division chief of the Branson Fire Department, 337-8580

## Fire department offering safety training to local businesses

Branson firefighters want business owners to be prepared should a fire emergency break out in their workplace, and that's why the city's fire department is offering training seminars for their employees.

"We cover the important topics like what action to take in case of a fire; evacuation procedures; notifying the fire department; how fire alarms and sprinkler systems work and fire prevention," said Ted Martin, division chief of the Branson Fire Department.

The fire department offers on-site fire safety training seminars throughout the year to city businesses. But Martin says as businesses prepare for the upcoming tourism season and schedule employee orientation programs, they could also include a fire safety program for the workplace.

Martin says the entire program only takes about an hour. The first 30 minutes are spent covering subjects like 9-1-1 emergency phone system, employee safety, eliminating fire hazards, evacuation plans and operations of fire alarms and sprinkler systems. The remaining time is spent covering the use of a portable fire extinguisher.

Firefighters take a portable burn pan that uses propane as a fuel source for employees to practice and get comfortable with operating a fire extinguisher.

"We hope that employees will not only use this fire safety message at work, but also take it home with them to share with family members as well," said Martin.

The program is provided at no cost by the fire department and can be scheduled for any work shift. For more information about fire safety and training programs, call the Branson Fire Department at 337-8580.