

## Non-Rechargeable Fire Extinguishers

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Effective April 20, 2022, a new U.S. Coast Guard regulation puts a 12-year expiration on all disposable (non-rechargeable) fire extinguishers on recreational vessels. The greater number of portable fire extinguishers in use aboard pleasure boats today are of the 'non-rechargeable or non-serviceable type'

If your disposable (non-rechargeable) fire extinguisher has a date of manufacture stamped on the bottle (example: "05" means 2005), and it is older than 12 years, the extinguisher is considered expired and must be removed from service. The date can be found on the back or side of the bottle, near the bottom.

You should take rechargeable fire extinguishers to an experienced fire equipment service company and inspected/recharged every 6 years.

If the extinguisher is disposable or damaged, then properly disposing of the unit is critical. Fire extinguishers should **never** be thrown in the trash, as they contain hazardous, pressurized chemicals. Instead, you should take fire extinguishers to your local hazardous waste location or a local fire department. If you're taking one to the fire department, call ahead to ensure that they receive expired extinguishers. The Marblehead Fire Department will take them.

For complete fire extinguisher regulations, go here:

<https://uscgboating.org/recreational-boaters/fire-extinguisher-faq.php>