Fire Safety Fire Extinguisher – Landscaping Fatality File



Fatal Fire Incident Due to Inadequate Fire Safety Measures in Landscaping

On July 22, 2023, a fatal fire incident occurred at a landscaping maintenance site in Los Angeles, California, resulting in the death of a 38-year-old worker, Sarah Lopez. Lopez was operating a gas-powered leaf blower when a spark from the engine ignited nearby dry grass and debris, leading to a rapidly spreading fire. Despite attempts to control the blaze, Lopez was unable to escape the fire’s path and suffered fatal burn injuries.

The investigation revealed that the landscaping crew was not equipped with adequate fire safety equipment, such as fire extinguishers, and had not received proper training on fire prevention and emergency response. The site also lacked a clear emergency evacuation plan, which contributed to the delay in response and the severity of the incident.

In response to this tragic event, the landscaping company has implemented strict fire safety protocols, including mandatory fire safety training for all employees, regular fire drills, and the placement of fire extinguishers at all job sites. The company has also introduced policies to ensure that flammable materials are properly managed and that all gas-powered equipment is maintained to prevent sparks and other fire hazards.