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*Pointing out where this equipment is located should be part of everyone's safety orientation. Also, remind them that in an emergency to bring the equipment with them. Suggest that people interested in learning more should approach management about additional training.*

**Transcript**

*In a medical emergency, having access to life-saving equipment such as defibrillators and first aid kits can reduce or prevent serious injuries.*

*Your organization should also add an emergency radio that operates when power is lost.*

*Hand-held extinguishers of the A-B-C type are not only useful, but in some cases required by law to be in your facility.*

*Other commonly used safety equipment includes fire axes, rope ladders, and highly visible exit signs. Your facility should review its needs in these areas at least annually.*

*Having the equipment is only the first of the three key ingredients for effective life-saving. Your staff must be trained in its use and the equipment has to be easy to access in an emergency.*

*When putting a budget request together for your emergency response plan, don’t overlook the need for additional life-saving equipment. Start by reviewing your facility’s floor plan. Decide if you have the right equipment located throughout the facility. Is it easy to locate and access? At least annually hold drills that include movement of various pieces of life-saving gear as part of the exercise.*

*Once you have sufficient equipment properly positioned, turn your attention to staff training.*

*Life-saving equipment plays a vital role in maintaining a safe and healthy environment. Your emergency response plan should be written with that in mind. Train your employees in how to respond quickly to medical emergencies. Then periodically test and measure reaction times and skill competency.*

*For more information on life-saving equipment, go to the* ***Ready Rating Resource Center****. For information on training and competency testing, contact your local Red Cross chapter*