



CUNNINGHAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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FIRE SAFETY DURING CONSTRUCTION

Structures under construction, alteration, or demolition shall be in compliance the following minimum safeguards to provide reasonable safety to life and property from fire during such operations.

Access for Fire Apparatus

- Approved access for fire fighting apparatus shall be provided to all construction or demolition sites. Vehicle access shall be provided to within 100 feet of temporary or permanent fire department connections. Vehicle access shall be provided by roads approved by Fire Prevention capable of supporting an imposed load of 75,000 lbs under all weather conditions. Temporary vehicle access shall be maintained until permanent fire apparatus access roads are available.
- Fire apparatus access roads shall remain clear of obstructions and parked vehicles or equipment to maintain an unobstructed width of not less than 20 feet at all times during construction.
- Security fences and gates shall not be placed across fire apparatus access without approval of Fire Prevention.

Address and Street Signage

- Construction sites and new or existing buildings shall have the address and building identification provided in an approved manner placed in a position that is plainly legible and visible from the street or road fronting the property. These numbers shall contrast with their background.
- Streets and roads shall be identified with approved signs. Temporary signs shall be installed at each street intersection when construction of new roadways allows passage by vehicles. Signs shall be of an approved size, weather resistant and be maintained until replaced by permanent signs.

Water Supply for Fire Protection

- Fire hydrants shall be installed and operational prior combustible material arriving on the site.
- Posts, fences, vehicles, growth, trash, storage and other materials or objects shall not be placed or kept near fire hydrants. A 3-foot clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants.
- Where fire hydrants are subject to impact by a motor vehicle, guard posts or other approved means.

Automatic Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Systems

- Occupancy of any portion of a building or structure in buildings where an automatic sprinkler system and/or fire alarm system required cannot occur until the automatic sprinkler system installation has been tested and approved.
- Operation of sprinkler control valves shall be allowed only by properly authorized personnel and shall be accompanied by notification of duly designated parties. When the sprinkler protection or fire alarm systems are being regularly shut down- or taken offline to facilitate connection of newly completed segments, the sprinkler control valves and fire alarm system shall be checked at the end of each work period to ascertain that protection and monitoring are restored.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

- Structures under construction, alteration or demolition shall be provided with not less than one approved portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2A 10BC as follows:
 1. at each stairway on all floor levels where combustible materials have accumulated.
 2. in every storage and construction shed.
 3. Additional portable fire extinguishers shall be provided where special hazards exist including, but not limited to, the storage and use of flammable and combustible liquids.

Fire Alarm Reporting

- A readily accessible emergency telephone shall be provided in an approved location at the construction site. The street address of the construction site and the emergency telephone number of the fire department shall be posted adjacent to the telephone.

Means of Egress

- Required means of egress shall be maintained during construction and demolition, remodeling or alterations and additions to any building.
Exception: Approved temporary means of egress systems and facilities.

Temporary Heating Equipment

- Temporary heating devices shall be listed and labeled. Installation, maintenance and use of temporary heating devices shall be in accordance with the terms of the listing.
- Fuel supplies for liquefied- petroleum gas-fired heaters shall be approved by Fire Prevention.
- Clearance to combustibles from temporary heating devices shall be maintained in accordance with the labeled equipment. When in operation, temporary heating devices shall be fixed in place and protected from damage, dislodgement or overturning in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- The use of temporary heating devices shall be supervised and maintained by competent personnel.

Precautions against Fire

- Smoking shall be prohibited except in approved areas. Signs shall be posted in accordance as required by Fire Prevention. Approved ashtrays shall be provided in areas where smoking is permitted approved.
- Combustible debris shall not be accumulated within buildings. Combustible debris, rubbish and waste material shall be removed from buildings at the end of each shift of work.
- Materials susceptible to spontaneous ignition, such as oily rags, shall be stored in a metal container with a tight fitting lid.
- Qualified personnel shall be provided to serve as an on-site fire watch when required. Fire watch personnel shall be provided with at least one approved means for notification of the fire department and their sole duty shall be to perform constant patrols and watch for the occurrence of fire.
- Operations involving the use of cutting and welding shall be done in accordance with the International Fire Code.
- Temporary wiring for electrical power and lighting installations used in connection with the construction, alteration or demolition of buildings, structures, equipment or similar activities shall comply with the International Fire Code and Electrical Code.

Flammable and Combustible Liquids

- The storage, use and handling of flammable and combustible liquids at construction sites shall be in accordance with the International Fire Code. Ventilation shall be provided for operations involving the application of materials containing flammable solvents.
- Flammable and combustible liquid storage areas shall be maintained clear of combustible vegetation and waste materials. Such storage areas shall not be used for the storage of combustible materials.
- Sources of ignition and smoking shall be prohibited in flammable and combustible liquid storage areas. Signs shall be posted in accordance with the International Fire Code.
- Flammable and combustible liquids shall be kept in approved safety containers.
- Leaking vessels shall be immediately repaired or taken out of service and spills shall be cleaned up and disposed of properly.

Flammable Gases

- The storage, use and handling of flammable gases shall comply with the International Fire Code.

Explosive Materials

- Explosive materials shall be stored, used and handled in accordance with the International Fire Code.
- Blasting operations shall be conducted in accordance the International Fire Code.
- Approved fire hoses for use by demolition personnel shall be maintained at the demolition site whenever explosives are used for demolition. Such fire hoses shall be connected to an approved water supply and shall be capable of being brought to bear on post-detonation fires anywhere on the site of the demolition operation.

Owners Responsibility for Fire Protection

- The owner shall designate a person to be the *Fire Prevention Program Superintendent* who shall be responsible for the fire prevention program and ensure that it is carried out through completion of the project.
- The Fire Prevention Program Superintendent shall develop and maintain an approved pre-fire plan in cooperation with Fire Prevention. Fire Prevention shall be notified of changes affecting the utilization of information contained in such pre-fire plans.
- Training of responsible personnel in the use of fire protection equipment shall be the responsibility of the Fire Prevention Program Superintendent.
- The Fire Prevention Program Superintendent shall determine that all fire protection equipment is maintained and serviced; and that the quantity and type of fire protection equipment is approved.
- The superintendent shall be responsible for supervising the permit system for hot work operations in accordance the International Fire Code.
- Fire Prevention Bureau shall be notified of impairments to any fire protection system.
- Coverings placed on or over fire protection devices to protect them from damage during construction processes shall be immediately removed upon the completion of the construction processes in the room or area in which the devices are installed.

Motorized Equipment

- Internal-combustion-powered construction equipment shall be used in accordance with all of the following conditions:
 1. Equipment shall be located so that exhausts do not discharge against combustible material.
 2. Exhausts shall be piped to the outside of the building.
 3. Equipment shall not be refueled while in operation.
 4. Fuel for equipment shall be stored in an approved area outside of the building.

For questions or additional information, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at
(303) 755-9202.