



Welding and Other Hot Work

An operational permit is required from the Fargo Fire Department prior to any welding and/or other hot work being conducted.

As adopted by the City of Fargo, the 2021 International Fire Code Chapter 35 Welding and Other Hot Work requires the following under an operational permit.

- **Operators of hot work equipment must be qualified to conduct said operations safely.**
- **Hot work areas shall not contain combustibles or shall be appropriately shielded.**
- **Partitions shielding hot work areas from other areas shall be noncombustible and prevent the passage of sparks, slag, and heat to outside of the area.**
- **Floors shall be kept clean within the hot work area.**
- **Hot work areas shall be free from openings or cracks in walls, floors, ducts, or shafts. If openings or cracks are present they must be appropriately shielded to prevent the passage of sparks or slag.**
- **A fire extinguisher(s) size 2-A:20-B:C must be accessible within 30 feet of work.**
- **Before hot work is permitted and at least once per day while the permit is in effect, the area shall be inspected by the individual(s) responsible to ensure it is a fire-safe area.**

Pre-hot work fire safety Checklist:

1. Is hot work equipment to be used in satisfactory operating condition and in good repair?
2. Is the hot work site clear of combustibles or are combustibles properly protected?
3. Is the area free of or shielded from openings and combustible materials?
4. Are floors clean and free of combustible debris?
5. Are fire extinguishers (2-A:20-B:C) operable and accessible within 30 feet of the area?

Additionally for hot work in Construction areas:

6. Are fire watches in place, where required?
7. Have actions been taken to prevent accidental activation of suppression and detection equipment (i.e. smoke detector covers installed)?
8. Are all fire suppression and detection equipment returned to operable condition after hot work is completed (i.e. smoke detector covers removed)?

If you have any questions regarding your operational permit or fire safety in the workplace, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 701-241-1540.