



Fire Safety At Construction Sites

B.C. Building Code and B.C. Fire Code states that the following requirements shall be met at all construction sites.

- 1) A fire safety plan shall be prepared prior to the commencement of construction or demolition activities. The fire safety plan shall include;
 - a) the designation and organization of site personnel to carry out fire safety duties, including watchperson service if applicable,
 - b) the emergency procedures to be used in case of a fire, including
 - i) sounding the alarm,
 - ii) notifying the fire department,
 - iii) instructing site personnel on procedures to be followed when the fire alarm sounds, and
 - iv) fire fighting procedures,
 - c) the control of fire hazards in and around the building,
 - d) the maintenance of fire fighting facilities.

The Fire Safety Plan Shall Be Approved By The Courtenay Fire Department Before Construction Begins.

- 2) A suitable means of alerting site personnel to a fire shall be provided, and this system shall be capable of being heard in all areas of the building.
- 3) Unobstructed access to fire protection equipment, such as hydrants, fire department connections and portable extinguishers, shall be maintained at all times.
- 4) Access routes to the construction site shall be provided for fire department apparatus at all times. If the area is fenced, provisions shall be made for access by fire department equipment and personnel.

(OVER)

Fire Safety At Construction Sites Cont'd.

- 5) Portable extinguishers shall be installed and maintained on every floor of the building, including:
- a) adjacent to cutting or welding operations,
 - b) in areas where combustibles are stored,
 - c) near or on any internal-combustion engines,
 - d) in areas where flammable liquids or gases are stored or handled,
 - e) adjacent to temporary oil or gas fired equipment, and
 - f) adjacent to bitumen heating equipment.

The Minimum Requirement On Extinguishers Is 2-A: 10-BC On Moveable Equipment And 4-A: 40-BC In All Other Locations.

- 6) In areas of the building where construction is taking place, at least one exit shall be accessible and useable at all times.
- 7) Proper clearances between combustibles and heating devices shall be maintained at all times.
- 8) Combustible refuse in sufficient quantities to constitute a fire hazard shall be moved to a safe location.
- 9) Smoking shall be permitted in designated areas only.

No Burning Of Construction / Industrial Wastes Is Permitted.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

COURTENAY FIRE DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE: (250) 334-2513 OR FAX: (250) 897-1361

Construction Fire Safety Plan

Site Address: _____

Building Name: _____ (or project name)

Fire Safety Officer

Name: _____

Title or Position:

Company Name:

Work Location:

How to be Notified: Day phone

Cell phone

Pager

Other (24 Hr.)

Normal Site working hours:

The **Fire Safety Officer** will be responsible for assuring the following procedures and/or conditions are adhered to:

- * the main access to the site may be locked to limit vehicle entry, but must allow for easy firefighting access by a single cut with bolt cutters.
- * at the site, the system of fire hydrants will be fully operational, unobstructed, and available to provide suitable fire flows for all buildings, construction materials, equipment and other conditions on site.
- * unobstructed road access for firefighting apparatus will be provided to the immediate area of any buildings, construction materials and equipment on site.
- * site personnel will be designated and organized to carry out fire safety plan duties including:
 - reduce and control access obstructions and fire hazards
 - provide and maintain firefighting equipment (fire extinguishers etc.)
 - provide watchman services when necessary
 - initiate emergency procedures when a fire occurs
- * site personnel will be instructed that when a fire occurs, the necessary emergency procedures to be initiated are:
 - sound the alarms
 - notify the fire department emergency dispatch by calling **911**
 - reduce and control exposures and meet the fire department at the main access with details of location and nature of problem