

Volusia County Fire Rescue

Fire Prevention Bureau

Hot Work Policy and Permit Procedure

Hot work shall comply with NFPA 51B *“Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Work”* and Chapter 41 of the Sixth Edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code. Permits, where required, shall comply with Section 1.12. Chapter 41 shall apply to the following hot work processes:

- (a) Welding and allied processes
- (b) Heat Treating
- (c) Grinding
- (d) Torch applied roofing
- (e) Thawing pipe
- (f) Power driven fasteners
- (g) Hot riveting
- (h) Torch applied roofing in conjunction with the requirements of Section 16.6
- (i) Similar applications producing or using a spark, flame or heat

Definitions

Hot work devices include but are not limited to:

- (a) Welding torches
- (b) Tar pots
- (c) Decorative torches, and other devices, machines, or processes liable to start or cause a fire

Designated area: a permanent location designed and approved for hot work operations to be performed regularly

Fire Watch: Are trained individuals who are responsible for the fire protection of the hot work at all times and are readily available and in close proximity to the hot work being performed and are without distraction from other duty.

Responsibility of Contractor and Management:

It shall be the responsibility of the contractor of record to ensure enforcement and compliance of this policy and the Florida Fire Prevention Code, specifically chapter 41 at all times. The contractor shall appoint and designate a Permit Authorizing Individual (PAI) and this person shall be responsible for the safe operation of hot work activities.

The PAI shall consult with the management of the project or Fire Inspector of the AHJ when a question or concern is at hand.

The operator of hot work operations shall have the permission of the PAI prior to the commencement of said work and will have examined any and all equipment for safe operation and be in good repair, prior to its utilization.

Hot work permit procedure(s):

1. Prior to starting any hot work

- (a) Contractor notifies Volusia County Fire Rescue Fire Prevention Bureau of the need of a permit 48 hours in advance, Contractor and Inspector agree on a time and date for inspection.
- (b) Contractor inspects and prepares the work area for obvious hazards and that two 4-A: 40BC fire extinguishers are in place within 25 feet of hot work area, accessible and visible. For hot work on a roof, one 4-A: 40BC fire extinguisher will be on the roof itself.
- (c) Volusia County Fire Inspector, as the AHJ, arrives and inspects premises for hot work pursuant to the Sixth Edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code. When no violations are found or corrected upon inspection, a permit for hot work will be authorized and a copy left at the scene for the duration or on a daily basis as the AHJ determines.
- (d) All PPE equipment will be in good working and safe for use. All work is done or supervised by a competent operator.
- (e) Any flammable or combustible surfaces shall be protected from damage during hot work and swept clean for a 35 ft. radius of flammable or combustible shavings.
- (f) If item (e) above is impractical, then listed welding covers or pads shall be placed over any combustibles. Cracks, openings, ducts or floor openings within 35 feet of the site shall be covered or sealed.
- (g) Any building fire alarm or sprinkler system will remain active and in service at all times. Contractor will consult with the AHJ and third party central station if a part of an alarm system has to be bypassed or taken off line, contractor will provide a fire inspector at no cost to the AHJ.
- (h) No roofing kettle will be allowed in excess of 5 barrels.
- (i) Fire watch will remain in effect for one hour after hot work is complete and if hot work is in operation at more than one site at the same time, a separate fire watch is required for each area.

Hot Tapping

Hot tapping or other cutting and welding on a flammable gas or liquid transmission or distribution utility pipeline shall be performed by a crew that is qualified to make hot taps.

Any situation, not specifically covered in this Hot Work policy shall be reviewed, by the party intending to perform said hot work for guidance and compliance with chapter 41.