

# Capital City Fire / Rescue - Fire Marshal's Office

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# Conditions and Requirements for **Hot Torch Operations**

#### **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL TORCH OPERATIONS:**

**Permit:** A Hot Work Permit shall be obtained from the Juneau Permit Center. Permits shall be kept at all times at locations where regulated roofing operations are conducted in the City & Borough of Juneau and shall be made available to Fire Department personnel upon request.

**Fire Extinguisher Inspection:** Each extinguisher shall be inspected at least annually and shall display a tag indicating when it was last inspected by a State of Alaska. (IFC 303.5)

All fires shall be immediately reported to Capital City Fire/Rescue by dialing 911.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF A TORCH FOR PAINT REMOVAL (IFC 308.4)

Persons utilizing a torch or other flame-producing device for removing paint from a structure shall provide a minimum of one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum 4-A rating, two portable fire extinguishers, each with a minimum 2-A rating, or a water hose connected to the water supply on the premises where such burning is done. (IFC 308.4, 906 & NFPA 10)

The person doing the burning shall remain on the premises 1 hour after the torch or flame-producing device is utilized. (*IFC* 308.4)

### REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF A TORCH ON A ROOF (IFC 2604)

**Fire Extinguishers:** At least one portable fire extinguisher with a minimum rating of 2-A:20-B:C is required for each burner (torch) that is located on the roof, and shall be located within 30 feet of the location where work is in progress. (IFC 906 & NFPA 10)

**Fire Watch:** A fire watch shall be designated whenever a torch is used on a roof. Individuals using a torch may not serve as their own fire watch. Fire watch personnel sole duty shall be to perform constant patrols and watch for the occurrence of fire. When several workers are performing torch operations on a single roof, the fire watch shall have a clear view of, and immediate access to, each worker. (*IFC 1404.5*)

#### Each designated fire watch shall:

- ✓ Be present continuously whenever the torch is in operation to watch for fire and operate fire-extinguishing equipment to extinguish spot fires.
- Be maintained for at least 30 minutes after completion or interruption of work, to detect and extinguish smoldering fires.
- ✓ Check attic spaces below the work areas for smoldering fire prior to leaving the site.
- ✓ Be trained in the use of available fire extinguishing equipment.
- ✓ Be capable of transmitting an alarm to the Emergency 911 Center via telephone.
- ✓ Be able to identify the specific address where the work is being performed.

**Combustible Materials:** Combustible material in close proximity of open flame shall be protected from ignition by shielding or wetting with water. The work area shall be cleared of all accumulations of combustible material at the end of each workday. All refuse must be promptly removed from the job site.

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