

Hot Work Permits

purpose

The purpose for the hot work permit program is to ensure that spark- and flame-producing construction and maintenance activities do not present an undue fire hazard to the people and property of The Ohio State University.

Hot work includes any operation producing flame, sparks, or heat. Examples of hot work include but are not limited to torch cutting, welding, brazing, grinding, sawing, torch soldering, thawing frozen pipes, and applying roofing materials.

top 10 materials first ignited by welding torches in non-residential structure fires

- 11.0% thermal or acoustical insulation
- 9.8% unclassified form of material
- 9.6% structural member or framing
- 6.7% rubbish, trash, waste
- 6.6% dust, fiber, lint
- 5.8% exterior roof covering or finish
- 4.0% accelerant or other gas or liquid
- 3.9% fuel
- 3.9% interior wall covering
- 3.7% box, carton, bag

top 10 areas of fire origin for non-residential welding torch structure fires

- 11.9% maintenance shop or area
- 8.8% process or manufacturing area
- 6.5% attic, ceiling/roof assembly concealed space
- 6.5% wall assembly or concealed space
- 6.5% garage
- 5.6% machinery room or area
- 4.9% product storage area, tank, bin
- 4.6% exterior roof surface
- 3.6% exterior wall surface
- 3.0% duct

checklist

- ❑ Can the object needing hot work be moved to a safer area? If not, then proceed to the next step.
- ❑ Obtain a hot work permit by downloading from the EHS web site or by calling an EHS representative.
- ❑ Arrange for an onsite inspection of the permit area and permit approval by an EHS representative before starting any hot work activities.
- ❑ Address building smoke detectors and sprinkler systems by contacting Ohio State's Fire Safety Systems at 292-3004 before starting any hot work activities.
- ❑ Address building HVAC precautions by contacting Building Automation at 292-5558 before starting any hot work activities.
- ❑ Relocate all combustible materials at least 35' (11 meters) horizontally from the work area. Where relocation is impractical, protect combustibles with fire-resistant covers, metal guards/shields, or curtains.
- ❑ Properly cover all openings or cracks in walls, floors, or ducts within 35' (11 meters) of the work area to prevent the passage of sparks into adjacent areas.
- ❑ Display the hot work permit in a conspicuous area during all hot work activities.
- ❑ Have a fire watcher present wherever hot work is being performed. The fire watcher will have fire extinguishing equipment readily available and will be trained in its use, including practice on test fires ... and will be familiar with the facilities and procedures for sounding an alarm in the event of a fire.
- ❑ The fire watcher will remain in the hot work area for a minimum of 30 minutes after the completion of hot work activities.
- ❑ Conduct a final check of the hot work area and all adjacent areas at the end of the work day to ensure there are no materials left behind that could ignite.

Protecting the people and property of the university from fire caused by maintenance and construction activities.