Construction/Renovation Jobsite Fire Safety

**Smoking:** Smoking is NOT allowed on any jobsite except in a designated smoking area that has been approved by the Fire Marshal. Persons caught smoking in buildings under construction can be fined up to $200 per occurrence.

**Trash and Debris:** All trash, material scraps and other waste material needs to be collected in trash containers and removed from the building at the end of every day. Trash, scraps and other waste shall not be allowed to accumulate in walls, ceilings, floor cavities or other interstitial space.

**Heating:** Heaters must be used in a way that matches the manufacturer’s instructions. Heaters must be fixed in place and protected from damage or tipping over. Clearance from all other materials must be constantly maintained, generally the space required is a minimum of 18 inches, but specific appliances may require greater or lesser distances. Be familiar with the instructions for the appliance you are using.

**Refueling Heaters and Equipment:** Refueling must be done only after the equipment or appliance has been shut down and allowed to cool. Flammable and combustible liquids must be stored in a designated area away from combustible materials and outside the building. Flammable and combustible liquids must only be kept in approved safety containers.

**Hot Work:** Hot Work is any activity that generates heat or sparks or uses open flames. This includes welding, torch cutting, grinding, brazing, soldering and etc. All hot work activities should be reported to the site superintendent or their assistants prior to the start of work. If the general contractor or building owner requires a permit for hot work, all rules and requirements of that program must be followed.

1. The site superintendent or their assistants must conduct a pre-hot-work check of the area where work is to be performed.

2. Any combustible material, including dust and scrap, must be removed from the work area prior to beginning work.
3. Shields must be used to prevent sparks, slag or other hot byproducts of work from traveling to floors above or below the work area, or other spaces adjacent to the work area.

4. A fire watch is required during all hot work and must be maintained for 30 minutes after work is complete. Fire watch requirements:

   a. Fire watch must include the entire work area. Where areas are exposed to hot work, such as walls or subfloor structures, additional fire watch persons must monitor the exposed areas as well.

   b. Fire watch personnel cannot be assigned any other duties, fire watch is their ONLY job for the duration of the required time. Their responsibility is to watch for and extinguish spot fires, sound an alarm on the site and report fires to the fire department.

   c. Fire watch personnel must have a properly maintained portable fire extinguisher rated not less than 2-A:20B:C with them at all times and be properly trained in the use of the fire extinguisher.

   d. Fire watch personnel must be provided with not less than one means of reporting fires immediately to the fire department.

**Reporting Fires:** ALL FIRES MUST BE REPORTED TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE MARSHAL IMMEDIATELY. Even if they have been successfully extinguished. Failure to report fires or attempts to delay or prevent others from reporting a fire is punishable by fines up to $500 and criminal charges.

**Cooking:** Cooking is not permitted inside or within 10 feet of the building or materials storage areas. Any cooking must be done in a safe manner with listed appliances or equipment.

**Electrical Safety:** Only listed and properly maintained cords may be used. Ground prongs must be intact. Cords that are damaged must be removed from service immediately. Extension cords must not be connected in multiples.