



## **EULESS FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE**

### **Information Line 1-4: Construction Project Fire Safety**

Revised: 10/21/2019

Approved by: Fire Chief Wes Rhodes/Division Chief Paul Smith

Code References: 2015 International Fire Code with local amendments/applicable NFPA Standards

#### **SCOPE:**

This information line addresses the most critical fire safety related items applicable to construction projects. This is not an all-inclusive list of every possible violation or scenario.

#### **SITE ACCESS:**

The fire department must ALWAYS have access to construction sites for potential fire and EMS related calls.

- Required fire lanes must be installed and approved before any combustible construction can begin above grade
- Fire lanes must be readily identifiable and kept clear of any building materials, trash, contractor vehicles or any other obstructions that would delay a fire department vehicle from accessing the site
- If security fencing is installed around the site, a Knox padlock is required on the main gate and may be required on any other gates installed over a fire lane as required by the Fire Marshal. Additional access points may be required at the discretion of the fire marshal.
- Gates must be wide enough to provide full clearance of the fire lane
- Chain securing the gates are requested to be a maximum thickness of 5/16". Knox padlock shanks are 7/16" wide so verify the opening in the chain links are accessible for a 7/16" padlock shank.
- Fencing must be routed in a means that does not impede access to fire hydrants

#### **PERMITS:**

In addition to the building construction permit, other fire permits for items such as fire sprinklers, fire alarms, etc., may be required for your project.

- Work covered by a required permit cannot begin until the permit is applied for, approved and issued.
- If a fire inspector observes work being done without a permit, a stop work order will be issued and a double permit fee will be assessed.

#### **FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT:**

- All required fire hydrants for a project must be installed and approved before any combustible construction can begin above grade
- Construction sites must have portable dry chemical ABC fire extinguishers with a minimum 10 pound (2A:60B:C) rating distributed throughout the project at maximum 75 foot travel distances and kept readily accessible throughout the project
- Other fire protection equipment may be required during the construction project depending on the size and configuration of the project

#### **GENERAL FIRE SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS:**

- Combustible building materials including lumber must be stored in areas accessible to the fire department.
- The accumulation of trash and combustible waste must be kept to a minimum and removed from the site as often as needed to minimize the potential for unwanted fires.
- Temporary electrical wiring, generators and extension cords must be used safely, in a manner approved by the electrical code.

- The fire marshal may prohibit smoking whenever conditions exist where the use of cigarettes or other smoking materials may create a hazard. Signage stating “NO SMOKING BY THE ORDER OF THE FIRE MARSHAL” may be required.

#### **PORTABLE FUEL STORAGE:**

- Containers used for the storage of flammable or combustible liquids must be approved and listed.
- Permits are required for temporary fuel tanks exceeding 499 gallons.

#### **INSPECTIONS:**

- Fire inspectors will periodically visit construction sites throughout the project to ensure compliance with all applicable fire codes and City of Euless requirements.
- A set of approved construction plans must be readily available at the construction site.
- When specific components such as the fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems are ready for inspection, it is the responsibility of the contractor doing the work to call for an inspection.

*Note: Information Lines are designed to give brief, easy to understand answers to common fire code related questions. This document should be treated as a reference tool and is not a replacement for specific fire codes and standards. If you still have questions about this topic after reading this document, please contact the Euless Fire Marshal at 817-685-1600.*