



VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS
DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING & HEALTH SERVICES
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Roofing Fire Safety

Preventing a fire during a roofing project often is a simple matter of having the right equipment at the right place. Following are just a few of the precautions detailed in Village safety codes:

If you are using a torch, you must:

- Locate at least one “4-A” rated portable fire extinguisher in a readily accessible location on the job site
- Locate two “2-A” rate fire extinguishers, or a charged water hose, immediately adjacent to any work involving a torch. The extinguishers or hose must be physically located on the roof when torch work of any kind is being performed on a roof.
- Designate at least one employee to remain on the job premises for no less than one hour following completion of the torch work in order to monitor the site for conditions that could cause a fire, such as smoldering embers or a flare-up.

If you are using an asphalt (tar) kettle you must:

- Locate the kettle a minimum of 15-feet from any structure or combustible material – never inside or on the roof of any structure.
- Provide and keep in place a secure cover for the kettle.
- Never leave a kettle unattended for any length of time.
- Locate at least one “20-BC” rate fire extinguisher in a readily accessible location within 30-feet of the kettle.
- Locate at least one “20-BC” fire extinguisher physically on the roof where work is underway.
- Place any liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders a safe distance away from any heat source and ensure they are protected.

Violations of these or other safety precautions could lead to legal action.

For more information contact the Department of Building & Health Services at (847) 368-5560