OHBA Safety Pages: Fire Prevention



Accidental fires are an unusual occurrence in most workplaces. It is easy to take for granted some of the everyday hazards that, if overlooked, can contribute to the occurrence of these fires. Here are some general tips to help prevent accidental fires at work, as well as at your home:

- Dispense flammable liquids only in areas free from sparks, flames, and other sources of ignition.
- Keep all containers of flammable liquids closed or covered when they are not in use. And return them to their designated storage area when you are done using them.
- When dispensing flammable liquid from one container into another, bond the two containers together and ground one. This helps prevent the build-up of static electricity, which can create a spark and ignite the vapors.
- Discard all rags and waste materials that are impregnated with flammable or combustible liquids, oil, or grease in covered, self-closing metal containers (should be colored red) and empty these containers into designated receptacles at the end of your shift.
- Keep all wastepaper, cardboard, and similar combustible materials cleaned up and placed in designated waste receptacles. Letting these items accumulate on the floor or other work areas creates an unnecessary fire hazard.
- Only use flame or spark-producing equipment, such as welders, torches, and grinders, in designated areas. Special approval of management must be obtained to use this type of equipment in areas where it is not normally used (discuss your company's "hot-work permit", if you have one).



- Smoking is allowed only in designated areas. Always dispose of butts in designated receptacles (if you have implemented a smoking ban at your site, discuss that instead).
- Make certain to avoid stacking materials too close to fire sprinkler heads, as doing so can affect their ability to disperse water adequately when activated; usually we must maintain a minimum of 18 inches of clearance below the level of the sprinkler heads.
- Make sure portable fire extinguishers remain fully charged and accessible at all times.

OHBA
OREGON HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

The information we provide is not intended to include all possible safety measures and controls. In addition, the safety information we provide does not relieve the Members of its own duties and obligations with regard to safety concerns, nor does Oregon Home Builders Association guarantee to the Members or others that the Member's property, job sites and/or operations are safe, healthful, or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations or standards. The Members remain responsible for their own operations, safety practices and procedures and should consult with legal counsel as they deem appropriate.

SAFETY PAGE MEETING GUIDE Topic: Fire Prevention

Employer: _____ Project: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Shift: _____

Number in crew: _____ Number attending: _____

Safety or Health issues discussed. Include recent accident investigations and hazards involving tools, equipment, the work environment, work practices and any Safety or Health recommendations:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Follow up on recommendations from last safety meeting:

_____

_____

Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

Supervisor's remarks: _____

Supervisor: _____ _____

(Print) (Signature)