

CRR POLICY 1318: Hot Work Permits

Created: April 23, 2018 Revised: June 29, 2020 Effective Date: Immediate
Community Risk Reduction Division – 928-204-8926



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2012 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Section 105.6.23 of the 2012 IFC. Hot work permits are required, not to prohibit work from being performed, but to ensure that all work is performed in accordance with the fire code and that it does not present an undue fire safety hazard.

Interpretation:

Welding and other hot work are frequent sources of ignition. Due to this fact, any person performing hot work is required to obtain a hot work permit from Sedona Fire District during periods when fire restrictions have been enacted and the risk un-wanted fire of is elevated. Permits must be obtained prior to starting any work. A site evaluation may be required prior to the issuance of a hot work permit.

Hot work is defined as;

Operations including cutting, welding, Thermite welding, brazing, soldering, grinding, thermal spraying, thawing pipe, installation of torch-applied roof systems or any other similar activity.

Section 105.6.23 of the fire code states;

Hot work operations. An operational permit is required for hot work including, but not limited to:

1. Public exhibitions and demonstrations where hot work is conducted.
2. Use of portable hot work equipment inside a structure.

Exception: Work that is conducted under a construction permit.

3. Fixed-site hot work equipment, such as welding booths.
4. Hot work conducted within a wildfire risk area.
5. Application of roof coverings with the use of an open flame device.
6. When *approved*, the *fire code official* shall issue a permit to carry out a hot work program. This program allows *approved* personnel to regulate their facility's hot work operations. The *approved* personnel shall be trained in the fire safety aspects denoted in this chapter and shall be responsible for issuing permits requiring compliance with the requirements found in Chapter 35. These permits shall be issued only to their employees or hot work operations under their supervision.

NOTE: The use of chainsaws and other portable fuel fire appliances is not considered hot work and is addressed by CRR Policy 1317.

Chapter 35 of the International Fire Code 2012 edition may be accessed at;

<https://codes.iccsafe.org/public/document/IFC2012/chapter-35-welding-and-other-hot-work>

Businesses have the option of implementing a **Hot Work Program** internally within their company and issuing their own *Hot Work Permits* without having to seek approval of the Fire Marshal, *except in certain cases*. Businesses electing to implement their own hot work permit program are also not subject to paying the fee required for each permit.

Businesses wishing to implement a **Hot Work Program** must fill out the application attached to this policy and submit it to this office. Businesses implementing their own *Hot Work Program* shall follow all requirements of Chapter 35 of the International Fire Code 2012 edition and the additional requirements of Sedona Fire District. For businesses with a *Hot Work Program*, the following situations require special approval by the Fire Marshal:

- In areas where the installed sprinkler system is impaired
- Areas where there exists the potential of an explosive atmosphere, such as locations where flammable gasses, liquids or vapors are present.

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- Areas with readily ignitable materials, such as storage of large quantities of bulk Sulphur, baled paper, cotton lint, dust or loose combustible materials.
- Other situations as determined by the Fire Marshal.
 - Hot work shall not be undertaken on days when a **Red Flag Warning** is in effect. Visit <https://www.weather.gov/fire/> to get the latest information.

For businesses without a hot work program, the following conditions shall apply:

- Chapter 35 of the International Fire Code sets forth the requirements for performing hot work.
- Those performing hot work shall adhere to the requirements of the fire code.
- Permits shall be obtained through this office and cost \$25.00.
- Hot work in urban locations with reduced risk of fire starts are more likely to be approved.
- Hot work in suburban settings with reduced risk of fire starts may not be approved.
- Hot work in suburban and rural settings with elevated risk of fire starts will likely NOT be approved.
- The Fire Marshal may approve hot work permits with conditions. If the permit is issued with conditions, all conditions must be met by the person performing the hot work for the permit to be valid.

Contractors shall be responsible for insuring that all employees performing hot work comply with all fire safety requirements as required by Sedona Fire District and the fire code.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:
Community Risk Reduction Division
Sedona Fire District
2860 Southwest Drive
Sedona, AZ 86336

crm@sedonafire.org