

WELDING GUIDELINES DURING EMERGENCY

Adopted May 31, 2011 and effective until further action by Commissioners Court of Wichita County

1. The use of combustible materials in an outdoor environment by any person is prohibited.
2. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to, fireworks, discarded cigarettes or other flammable materials used in activities such as welding and any other activity that could result in a wildfire.
3. Welding is allowed by commercial/professional welders under the following guidelines **ONLY**:
 - a. A spotter is required for each welder, each cutter, each grinder, and for any activity that causes or may cause a spark.
 - b. A diameter around the welding area shall be a minimum of 25 feet and clear of vegetation, if possible, and kept wet. The welding perimeter must be three times the height of the actual welding. Example: if the welding is occurring ten feet off the ground, a perimeter of thirty (30) feet must be protected.
 - c. A minimum of 10 gallons of water must be available on site.
 - d. A minimum of one (1) water pressure fire extinguisher per spotter is required and one spare. Each extinguisher should be at least 2 ½ gallons.
 - e. Each welding rig must have a Class B Chemical Fire Extinguisher, minimum 10lbs.
 - f. If the work area cannot be cleared of vegetation, proper precautionary measures must be taken (Example: protecting brush, etc, by utilizing fire resistant tarps).
 - g. Welding in an enclosed area is acceptable.
 - h. No welding is permitted if winds are 20 mph or greater.
 - i. Prior to ANY welding activity a phone call shall be placed by the welder or company conducting welding operations to the Wichita County Sheriff's Department (940-766-8276) relaying the location of the project, cell phone for contact person, name of party responsible, and name of welder.

Persons violating this order may be arrested and fined up to \$500.