



West Bay Sanitary District Code of Safe Practice

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Questions or comments regarding this
Code of Safe Practice should be directed
to the Regulatory Compliance Coordinator.

Welder, Electric /Arc Welder?

- Pre-inspect equipment including rental equipment.
- Review and understand the manufacturer's operator's manual for this equipment.
- A welding machine shall be equipped with a power disconnect switch, which is conveniently located at or near the machine, so the power can be shut off quickly.
- Never make repairs to welding equipment unless qualified to do so. The high voltage used for arc welding machines can inflict severe or fatal injuries.
- Welding machines must be properly grounded. A stray current can cause severe shock when ungrounded parts are touched.
- The polarity switch shall never be changed when the machine is under a load. Wait until the machine idles and the circuit is open. Otherwise, the contact surface of the switch may be burned and the resulting arc could cause an injury.
- Welding cables shall not be overloaded or a machine operated with poor connections.
- Damp areas should be avoided, and hands and clothing shall be kept dry at all times.
- Do not strike an arc if someone without proper eye protection is nearby. If other persons are in the work area, a welding screen shall be placed to protect them from the arc welding flash.
- Suitable spark shields must be used in arc welding.
- Keep the non-insulated portion of the electrode holder from touching the welding ground when the current is on; this will cause a flash.
- Keep welding cables dry and free from oil and grease.
- Do not carry welding cables coiled around the shoulders.

- Welding hoods shall be inspected before use and comply with ANSI Standards.
- Protective clothing and long sleeved coveralls shall be worn. Leather gloves are required.
- Hearing and respiratory protection may be required.
- Do not weld in unventilated areas.
- Follow Hot Work Permit requirements when not welding in a Designated Welding Area.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Protection Area	PPE Required
Eye	Safety glasses or goggles meeting the ANSI Z87.1 Standard. Welding helmet shall have appropriate shade tinting for the type of welding being performed.
Face	Welding helmet with proper shade tinting where appropriate.
Hand	Leather safety work gloves.
Head	Hardhat when appropriate.
Foot	Leather steel toe or composite toe safety shoes or boots.
Body	Non-combustible clothing appropriate for welding, sparks and slag.
Respiratory	Welding must be performed in well-ventilated areas. Air-purifying respirator with HEPA filter and appropriate chemical cartridge when appropriate.
Hearing	Wear earplugs or earmuffs as necessary.