

Catholic Mutual... "CARES"

SCAFFOLDING

Scaffolding is a non-permanent platform that is set up to allow workers to reach heights. Scaffolding is used for maintenance, building construction or repair.

Three Important Requirements:

1. Only authorized and trained employees should be allowed on scaffolding. Employees must also be trained to recognize hazards associated with the type of scaffold being used.
2. Volunteers should not be allowed to use scaffold equipment.
3. No one under the age of 21 should be allowed on scaffold equipment.

Scaffolds and scaffold components should be inspected for visible defects by a qualified person. This must be completed before use and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity. The following general requirements should be followed when constructing and using scaffolds. Please be advised these requirements are not inclusive of all applicable safety codes and standards.

Capacity

- ✓ Scaffold system and components shall be capable of supporting its own weight plus 4x the intended load.

Construction

- ✓ All platforms (working levels) shall be fully decked.
- ✓ Maximum gap between planks shall be no more than 1".
- ✓ The front edge of all platforms shall be no further than 14" from face of the work.
- ✓ Each end of a platform (10' or less) must extend over its support at least 6" but no more than 12".
- ✓ When work platforms overlap, the overlap must occur over supports and shall not be less than 12" unless restrained against any movement.
- ✓ Wood platforms shall not be covered with opaque finishes.
- ✓ Mixed scaffold components shall not be used.
- ✓ Scaffold components of dissimilar metals shall not be used.
- ✓ Never allow anyone to construct a makeshift scaffold. Example: Placing planks between 2 step ladders.

Use

- ✓ Scaffolds and components shall not be loaded in excess of their capacities.
- ✓ Scaffolds and scaffold components shall be inspected for visible defects by a competent person before each use and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity.
- ✓ Any damaged scaffold components shall immediately be repaired or replaced.
- ✓ Scaffolds shall be at a safe distance from powerlines, a minimum of 10'.
- ✓ Scaffolds shall be erected, moved and/or dismantled under the supervision of a person qualified in erection/dismantling.
- ✓ Working on scaffolds during storms and high winds is prohibited.
- ✓ Keep work platform organized and free of debris.
- ✓ No makeshift devices or ladders (to increase work height) can be used on scaffolds.

- ✓ Outriggers or braces to prevent scaffold from tipping should be used whenever available. Outriggers must be used if the work platform height is more than 4 times the width of the scaffold. If scaffold is erected in an open area, outriggers must be installed on both sides (not ends) of the scaffold.

Fall protection

- ✓ Guardrail systems (including midrails) shall be installed along all open sides and ends of the scaffold.
- ✓ The top guardrail must be 36"- 42" above the platform.

Falling object protection

- ✓ Employees subject to falling objects shall be protected by barricades, toeboards, screens, and hard hats.
- ✓ Toeboards shall be at least 4" high.

(Revised 9/2018)