



City of Fort Morgan Roof Inspection Procedures

It is the responsibility of the roofing contractor/installer to provide ladder access to all inspections. All ladders shall be set up in accordance with applicable OSHA standards (3 rings above the roof and tied-off to the structure.) A representative of the contractor/installer must be present at the time of the inspection. The following procedures are intended to serve both roofers and city inspections staff to help ensure the safety of all concerned during the inspection process.

1. Inspect ladders for cracked, broken, or defective parts before use;
2. Ensure that the ladder used is tall enough to extend a foot or two past the edge of the roof. Always plant the ladder on solid ground;
3. Set extension or straight ladders at a 75 degree angle from the ground (1/4 foot back for every foot of rise) and provide 3 feet above an upper landing surface to ease climbing onto/descending from height;
4. Use non-conductive ladders (e.g., fiberglass) and exercise extreme caution when working near power lines;
5. Never position the ladder at too steep of an angle. If the angle is too steep, the risk of falling over backwards increases. A representative of the roofing contractor is expected to serve as a spotter to ensure the ladder stays firmly on the ground;
6. Wear proper shoes. Shoes should provide enough traction to reduce slipping. Tennis shoes are a good choice, because they offer good grip and a soft sole. Additionally, the soft sole will be less likely to damage the roof;
7. Roof inspections in which the fall distance is greater than 25 feet (any slope) from eave to ground level or where the roof pitch is greater than 8:12 (8 vertical to 12 horizontal) require the use of a fall restraint system, or an equivalent protection system such as protected sides and toeboards, or safety nets. A fall restraint system shall include a lanyard and other system components sufficient to hold the inspector on the roof. If sufficient protection is not available, the inspector may determine if the inspection can be properly conducted from the ground using binoculars, or if it must be rescheduled to a date when proper safety equipment is available; and
8. Inspections will only be conducted in favorable weather. No inspections will be conducted during precipitation events, or when there is any visible ice, snow or dew on the roof to be inspected.

Approved by D. Callahan, Community Development Director

Current as of April 18, 2013