

Hot Asphalt Protection

☛ Personal protective equipment (PPE) should always be worn when working with hot asphalt. Full PPE consists of:

- ① Long pants with no cuffs that cover the tops of the boots,
- ② A long-sleeved shirt, buttoned at the cuff and within one button of the collar,
- ③ Boots with thick rubber or composite soles,
- ④ Gloves with snug-fitting cuffs,
- ⑤ Goggles or safety glasses, and
- ⑥ A full faceshield and a hard hat when tending a kettle.



☛ Safe work practices are as important as proper PPE selection.

- Remember to check all hot-handling equipment and make sure it isn't wet or icy, because water can cause hot asphalt to spatter.
- Keep kettle lids closed except when you are skimming the asphalt or adding bitumen.
- Keep the filler holes covered when you're not filling the lugger.
- Turn mop carts and buckets over at the end of the day.
- Spin mops out at the end of the day.
- When buckets are stuck, twist to free them. Do not pull or jerk the bucket, or the hot asphalt may splash.
- Carry hot buckets on the downhill side of sloped roofs.
- Do not fill buckets more than three-fourths full.
- Be careful not to step in fresh hot or on asphalt that has recently been wetted, because asphalt is extremely slippery in both of these conditions.

☛ Quick response with first aid can ease the damage burns can cause.

- Call for emergency services immediately.
- Cool the burned area with water. Do not apply burn creams or salves.
- Do not remove bitumen, asphalt, or clothing from the burned area.

Hot Asphalt Protection Training Tips

- Ask for a show of hands of workers that have been burned. Ask them if the incidents might have been prevented, and if so, how.
- Later in the day, ask one of the hot moppers what he would do if someone slipped in the asphalt and got hot stuff all over his arm.
- Review emergency medical procedures.
- Ask someone to review the list of proper PPE.
- Ask the following question:
 - Why is it important that there not be water or ice in the kettles, luggers, or buckets?