



TOWN OF FAIRFAX
Department of Planning and Building Services
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CODE CLARIFICATION

Timber Connectors and Fasteners For Use With Pressure-Treated Woods

UBC 2304.3 Timber Connectors and Fasteners (excerpt from 3rd paragraph).

“Fasteners for pressure-preservative treated and fire-retardant treated wood shall be hot-dipped zinc coated galvanized, stainless steel, silicon bronze or copper.”

Pressure preservative-treated and fire retardant treated wood can be caustic to zinc coated (or galvanized) steel. Foundation anchor bolts, post and beam connectors, joist hangers, hold downs, floor to floor connectors, nails, bolts and washers, are all types of hardware typically utilized and **should not be placed in direct contact with pressure treated and/or fire retardant wood**, unless one of the following applications suitable for such contact is used.

1. All metal hardware in contact with pressure treated wood (ACA, ACQ, ACZA, CCA, etc.) must be hot dipped galvanized or stainless steel.

Note: UBC Sections 1811.3, 1811.7, 2306 contain additional reference information.

Alternatives Accepted by the Town of Fairfax

A. If the hardware is not hot dipped galvanized or stainless steel, a single layer of 30lb construction felt may be placed between the wood and hardware isolating any direct contact between the hardware and preservative.

OR

B. The hardware may be painted using an approved corrosion resistant paint **prior to installation** (this does not include fasteners.) This alternate method may only be used in limited applications and must be pre-approved by the Building Official.

Note: In all cases, fasteners must be attached with corrosion resistant nails, screws, bolts, etc.