

# Main Street Memo

## Cocklofts



Cockloft Slope



- The cockloft is a void space that is created between the top floor ceiling and the roof decking.
- Dried out wood beams, bracing, underside of the roof deck, ceiling lath and wood can contribute to a fast spreading fire.
- Cocklofts are created to enhance the slope of the roof, as utility passageways, and to provide ventilation of the top floor as they tend to capture heat at the uppermost floor.
- If fire enters the cockloft the fire may spread rapidly and drop down to floors below,.
- Be cautious when opening below, Incomplete combustion inside a concealed space such as a cockloft can generate carbon monoxide and the right mix of oxygen from a firefighter opening up can create a smoke explosion.
- [Click for a Fire Engineering Hangout on Cockloft Fires 2020](#)