



Village of Fox Crossing Fire Department

Public Education Division

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Home Fire Sprinkler Systems

Fire kills more people in the United States annually than all natural disasters combined—almost 4000 people! Shouldn't we all feel the safest when we are in our own home? Keep in mind however, that when fire strikes, the carbon monoxide gases given off will not wake you up but put you into a deeper sleep and ultimately, death.

Those at highest risk are the very young and older adults that would have trouble making a quick escape after being alerted to fire by their smoke detections system.

Smoke alarms are an essential part of a fire detection/suppression system by giving the early warning of a problem (fire). But, the sprinkler system you could have installed in your home compliments the alarm system by containing the fire—and frequently putting it out prior to fire department arrival.

Remember, every 79 seconds a residence burns. Smoke alarms AND sprinklers working together cut your risk of dying in a home fire 82% as opposed to having neither.

Home Fire Sprinkler System Tips

- ✓ To ensure sprinkler system reliability, be sure to use a qualified contractor who adheres to NFPA codes and standards as well as your local fire department regulations.
- ✓ Home fire sprinkler systems often cost less than cabinet upgrades, new carpeting and many other options in new home construction.
- ✓ Sprinkler systems usually operate directly off the domestic water supply
- ✓ In Scottsdale, AZ, sprinklers have been required in new residential construction since 1986. The average fire loss per sprinkler incident was \$2,166 compared to more than \$45,000 loss per fire in homes without sprinklers.
- ✓ Eight out of ten fire deaths in the US occur in the home.

Did you know...?

- ✓ Only the sprinkler closest to the fire activates.
- ✓ Modern systems are inconspicuous and can be flush mounted within the walls or ceilings and are virtually undetectable.
- ✓ Sprinklers do not go off accidentally. Despite Hollywood television wonders, burnt toast and cigarette smoke do not activate the sprinklers. The sprinklers are heat activated—usually having to be at least 165 degrees before they'd activate.
- ✓ Sprinklers keep fires small. Therefore, if you had a fire, the overall damage would be a lot less smaller than the smoke damage, heat damage and fire damage would cause. Sprinkler systems control a fire with only 10 to 26 gallons of water per minute as compared to when the fire department arrives (and the fire is a lot bigger) and they use at least 125 gallons per minute minimum per water line used.

***All information shown in this section is from the HomeFireSprinkler.org Protect What You Value Most brochure

Public Education: Our First Line of Defense!