



Fire Sprinkler Systems

Because fire sprinklers react so quickly, they can dramatically reduce the heat, flames and smoke produced in a fire. Properly installed and maintained fire sprinklers help save lives.

Facts About Home Fire Sprinkler Systems:

- Home Fire Sprinklers can control and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on scene.
- Only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate, spraying water directly on the fire. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), in 84% of home fires where sprinklers operate, just one sprinkler is triggered.
- If you have a fire in your home, automatic fire sprinklers cut the risk of dying by 80% (source: NFPA).
- In a home with fire sprinklers, the average property loss per fire is cut by about 70% compared to fires where sprinklers are not present (source: NFPA).



Keep Your Fire Sprinklers Working for You:

- Never tamper with your fire sprinkler system or any other fire protection equipment. It not only puts you and other residents at risk, it is also a misdemeanor crime (RCW 9.40.100).
- Do not hang anything from your fire sprinkler heads or pipes. Sprinkler equipment is not designed to hold weight. In fact, the most common cause of sprinkler malfunction is adding weight.
- Keep the area around the sprinkler head clear of obstructions. Fire sprinklers spray water in a defined pattern over the fire. Obstructions may disrupt the spray pattern and reduce the effectiveness of the sprinkler in putting out the fire.
- Never paint sprinkler heads or cover them in any way as it could prevent them from working properly.
- Use caution when working around exposed sprinkler heads as not much force is needed to break them. Breaking them will release a large amount of water which can only be turned off by the fire department or sprinkler technician.