



WHAT ARE HOME FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS?

Using quick-response sprinklers and approved piping, homes can be built or even retrofitted to include low-cost automatic sprinkler systems connected to the domestic water supply.

Sprinkler systems offer advantages to the homebuilder:

- A low-cost, reliable safety option that attracts buyers.
- Trade-offs between sprinklers and code requirements that can result in lower construction costs, later rooms, more units per area of land, etc.

For homeowners, the advantages include a safer environment for their families, protection of their investment and irreplaceable family possessions, and lower insurance rates.



www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/fire

In association with

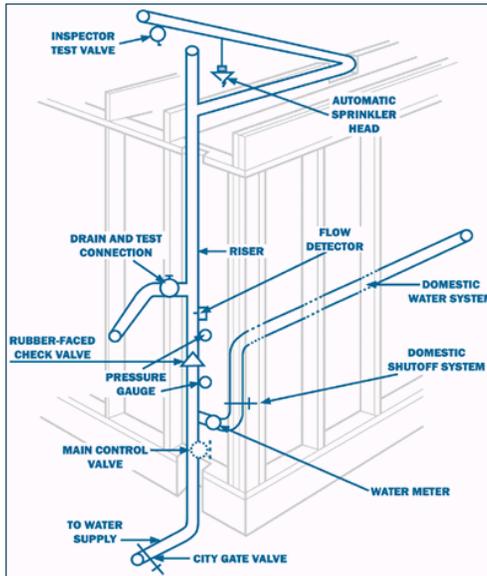


www.fire.state.mn.us

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEMS



We Have the
Technology...



SPRINKLERS — THE SOLUTION

Residential fires take a high toll in life and property. In 2002, there were:

- 401,000 residential fires
- 2,695 civilian fire deaths
- 14,050 civilian fire injuries
- Over \$6 billion in property damage

Data Source: Fire Loss in the U.S. During 2002, NFPA. August 2003.

Studies by the Federal Emergency Management Agency United States Fire Administration indicate that the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems could have saved thousands of lives, significantly reduced injuries and eliminated hundreds of millions of dollars in property losses.

**For more information contact:
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SPRINKLERS IN HOMES

Businesses usually have sprinkler systems to protect them from fire destruction. Homes and other residential buildings, however, often are not. What actions should we take to protect our families and personal possessions from fire?

Millions of Americans have installed smoke alarms in their homes in the past few years, but a smoke alarm can only alert the occupants to a fire in the house — it cannot contain or extinguish a fire.

Residential sprinkler systems can!

TRUE OR FALSE?

When one sprinkler goes off, all the sprinklers activate.

False! Only the sprinkler over the fire will activate. The sprinkler heads react to temperatures in each room individually. Thus, fire in a bedroom will activate only the sprinkler in that room.

A sprinkler could accidentally go off, causing severe water damage to a home.

False! Records compiled for well over 50 years prove that the chances of accidental activation are negligible. Furthermore, home sprinklers are specifically designed and rigorously tested to minimize accidents.

Water damage from a sprinkler system will be more extensive than fire damage.

False! The sprinkler system will severely limit a fire's growth. Therefore, damage from a home sprinkler system will be much less severe than the smoke and fire damage from an uncontrolled fire — or the water damage caused by water from firefighting hoses.

Home sprinkler systems are expensive.

False! Current estimates suggest that a sprinkler system could be installed in a home under construction for less than one percent of the total construction cost.

Residential sprinklers are ugly.

False! The traditional, commercial-type sprinklers as well as sprinklers for home use are now being designed to fit in with most decors.