

## RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLERS

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*Everything You Need To Know  
About Installing Fire Sprinklers  
In Your New Home*



A FREE GUIDE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



## Why Do I Need Fire Sprinklers In My Home?

Eighty-three percent of the 3,900 fire deaths recorded annually in the United States occur in homes.\* Sprinklers provide the ultimate protection from fire for your property and your family. Sprinklers will extinguish a typical residential fire in less than one minute to dramatically improve survival rates.

## Why Are Sprinklers Important For Life Safety?

Sprinklers do not rely upon human factors such as familiarity with escape routes or emergency assistance. They go to work immediately to reduce the danger. Sprinklers prevent the fast developing fires of intense heat (flashover) which are capable of trapping and killing the occupants of a home.

## How Do Sprinklers Operate?

Fire sprinklers are individually heat-activated and connected to a network of plastic Chlorinated Polyvinyl Chloride (CPVC), copper or steel pipe with water under pressure. When the heat of a fire raises the sprinkler to its operating temperature, usually between 135°-175°F, a fusible link or glass bulb **will activate only that sprinkler over the fire**, thereby releasing water only over the source of heat.

## Won't Sprinklers Look Strange In My House?

No. Due to advances in sprinkler technology, sprinklers look better than ever, if you can see them at all.

Sprinklers can be concealed behind ceiling plates out of sight until needed to extinguish a fire. They are available in a wide range of sizes and colors to blend into the background of almost any room.



## Do Fire Departments Support Home Sprinklers?

Absolutely. Firefighters are some of the biggest proponents of home sprinklers. We encourage you to ask your local fire chief about the importance of fire sprinklers.

## What About Water Usage?

Sprinklers use only a fraction of the water that fire department hoses do. In case of fire, the water discharged by the fire department is hundreds of times greater than that discharged from sprinklers. During a fire **only** the sprinklers closest to the fire are activated which limits the total amount of water needed to suppress a fire.



## How Effective Are Sprinklers?

Communities with fire codes that require sprinkler systems are enthusiastic about their accomplishments. Scottsdale, Arizona has required fire sprinklers in all new homes since 1986. More than half the homes, over 45,000, are protected with fire sprinkler systems. Sprinklers are credited with saving 13 lives and saving millions of dollars in fire damage. Hundreds of communities across the country require fire sprinklers in all new homes and are experiencing similar results.

## What Is A NFPA 13D System?

The fire sprinkler system is installed according to the national standard NFPA 13D. It is intended to prevent injury, loss of life and property damage. The system is designed to quickly provide water on a fire in its initial stage of development to prevent flashover from occurring and the fire from spreading. NFPA 13D requires sprinklers only in living areas, not in smaller bathrooms or closets, pantries, garages or carports, attached open-structures, attics and other concealed non-living spaces.

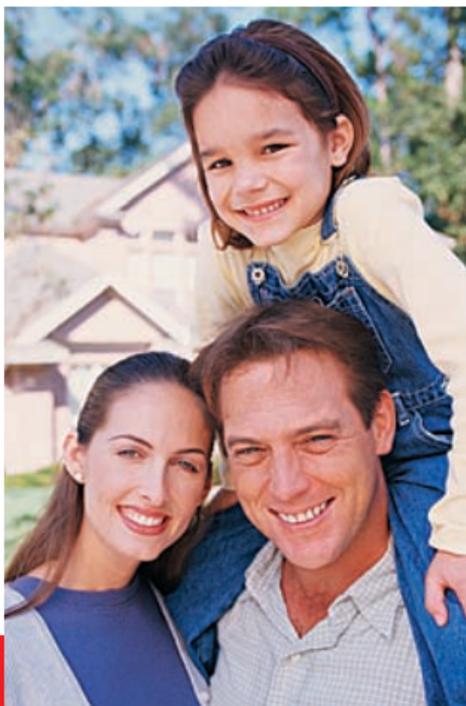
## Who Do I Contact For More Information?

Call the Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board toll-free number: 866-2NIFSAB (866-264-3722) or locally: 708-403-4468.

Visit online:  
[www.firesprinklerassoc.org](http://www.firesprinklerassoc.org)

E-mail:  
[NIFSAB@NIFSAB.org](mailto:NIFSAB@NIFSAB.org)

Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition:  
[www.HomeFireSprinkler.org](http://www.HomeFireSprinkler.org)



## MUNICIPAL FIRE SPRINKLER CODES WITH NFPA 13D SINGLE-FAMILY HOME RESIDENTIAL ORDINANCES

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Barrington FPD	Libertyville FPD
Bedford Park	Lincolnwood
Berkeley	Long Grove
Bridgeview	Long Grove FPD
Clarendon Hills	Matteson
Countryside FPD	Mettawa (Libertyville)
Des Plaines	Mount Prospect
Glen Ellyn Fire Co.	North Maine FPD
Green Oaks (Libertyville)	Oak Forest
Hickory Hills	Park Ridge
Hoffman Estates	River Forest
Huntley	Round Lake Beach
Huntley FPD	St. Charles Countryside FPD
Indian Creek	Skokie
Justice	Streamwood
LaGrange Park	Sunnycrest FPD
Lake Barrington	West Dundee
Libertyville (Municipality)	Wheeling

### SCOTTSDALE 15-YEAR SUMMARY

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- **January 1, 1986:** passed ordinance requiring fire sprinklers installed according to NFPA 13-D in all single-family homes
- **January 1, 2001:** 51% of all single-family homes are protected with residential fire sprinklers
  - 37,652 do NOT have fire sprinklers
  - 39,258 DO have fire sprinklers
- **49 fires** in single-family homes with fire sprinklers
  - Over \$20 million potential loss
  - \$106,110 actual loss
  - \$2,166 average loss per sprinkler incident
- **13 lives saved!**



**Northern Illinois  
Fire Sprinkler  
Advisory Board**

[www.firesprinklerassoc.org](http://www.firesprinklerassoc.org)

SAVE LIVES. PROTECT YOUR HOME. INSTALL FIRE SPRINKLERS.