

# HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS

## REDUCE FIRE DEATHS AND PROPERTY DAMAGE.



When a fire is extinguished by a fire sprinkler, there is:

- less toxic smoke
- less water used
- less debris in landfills
- less water run-off down storm drains



Fire sprinklers activate by:

- heat
- not by smoke alarms or other fire sprinklers



- The average national cost of installing fire sprinklers in new homes is \$1.35 per sprinklered square foot, or about **one percent of the total construction cost**.
- Most insurance companies offer discounts for homes equipped with fire sprinklers.



- Newer homes have larger open spaces, lightweight construction materials, and household items that can burn quickly, allowing fire to spread faster.
- **Sprinklers offset the increased dangers**, which creates a safer environment for everyone.



- Smoke alarms are crucial and increase the chances of escaping a home fire, but they do not suppress a fire.
- Home fire sprinklers, in coordination with smoke alarms, have been **proven to protect lives** and property against fire.



Oregon State Police  
**OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL**  
503-934-8228  
[oregon.gov/osp/sfm](http://oregon.gov/osp/sfm) | [osfm.ce@state.or.us](mailto:osfm.ce@state.or.us)  
 [fb.com/OregonStateFireMarshal](https://www.facebook.com/OregonStateFireMarshal)  
 [twitter.com/OSFM](https://twitter.com/OSFM)

## HOW DO HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS WORK?

- Home fire sprinklers include a network of piping filled with water (under pressure) that are installed behind the walls and ceilings.
- Individual sprinklers are placed along the piping to protect the areas beneath them.
- Because water is always in the piping, sprinklers are always ready to react.
- If fire breaks out, the air temperature above the fire rises and the sprinkler activates when the air temperature gets hot enough.
- In most cases, fire sprinklers spray water over the flames, extinguishing the fire completely or at least controlling the heat, and limiting the development of toxic smoke (until the fire department arrives).
- Only the sprinkler(s) nearest the fire activates. **Smoke will not activate fire sprinklers.**
- They reduce the risk of death or injury from a fire because they dramatically reduce heat, flames, and smoke, allowing people extra time to evacuate a home.

## HOW ARE FIRE SPRINKLERS INSTALLED?

- Sprinklers are installed by trained contractors who follow codes, standards, and other local requirements.

## WHEN DO FIRE SPRINKLERS GET INSTALLED?

- The best time to install sprinklers is when you are building a new home or remodeling an existing home.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

- Visit the websites below.



**FIRE SPRINKLER INITIATIVE**  
Bringing Safety Home



**Home Fire Sprinkler**  
**COALITION**  
Protect What You Value Most



The Voice of the Fire Sprinkler Industry

**ONLINE RESOURCES:** [nfsa.org](http://nfsa.org), [homefiresprinkler.org](http://homefiresprinkler.org)



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