

## FIRE SAFETY FACTS

- Over 80% of fire deaths occur in the home (that's about 2,500 people each year)
- You have only 3 minutes to escape a home fire. Fire sprinklers can stop a fire in 1.5 minutes.
- Fires burn fast and kill quickly because of the raw materials now used in modern building construction and furnishings.

## FIRE SPRINKLER FACTS

- Smoke alarms alert occupants to the presence of danger, but do nothing to extinguish the fire.
- Having a working smoke alarm cuts the chances of dying in a reported fire in half; with sprinklers present, the risk decreases by about 80%.
- Fire sprinklers save lives, reduce property loss and can even cut homeowner insurance premiums
- Home fire sprinklers can contain and may even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take the fire department to arrive on the scene
- Installing both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system reduces the risk of home fire death by 82%, relative to having neither.
- Only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate, spraying water directly on the fire. Ninety percent of fires are contained by just one sprinkler
- Nationally, on average, home fire sprinklers add 1% to 1.5% of the total building cost in new construction
- Modern residential sprinklers are inconspicuous and can be mounted flush with walls or ceilings

## TIPS

- A family escape plan is essential. Here's how to create one and to practice using it with your entire household.
- Draw a map of your home (PDF\*), mark two exits from each room, and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year with everyone in your home. Conduct one at night and one during the day and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Make sure your house number is clearly marked, making it easy for the fire department to find you.
- Close doors behind you as you leave – this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.
- Regularly clean washing machines/dryers: the leading cause of home washer/dryer fires is failure to clean them.
- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area. Install them on every level of the home, test them at least once a month and make sure they are interconnected (when one sounds, they all sound).
- Have a fire extinguisher for immediate use on small fires, and know how to use and maintain them.

\* <http://www.nfpa.org/~media/files/public-education/campaigns/fire-prevention-week/fpw17/fpw17escapeplangrid.pdf?la=en>