



# NEWS RELEASE

[parksvillefirerescue.ca](http://parksvillefirerescue.ca)

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## Protect What You Value Most – Home Fire Sprinklers Save Lives

The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition fire sprinkler initiative is an advocacy campaign aimed at increasing the number of new, one- and two-family homes protected by fire sprinklers. It helps stakeholders navigate the code-making and legislative process to get fire sprinkler requirements for new homes passed in their communities. The initiative offers an array of free research, resources, and on-the-ground support that can help sprinkler advocates underscore the life-saving impact of home fire sprinklers. National Fire Protection Association also assists sprinkler coalitions in convincing the public and their decision makers that sprinklers are needed in homes, where people have the greatest risk of dying from fire.

A home fire can become deadly in less than three minutes. Young children, older adults and people with disabilities are at greatest risk. Only the sprinkler closest to the fire activates, controlling or extinguishing the fire so everyone can escape. Residential home sprinklers can be installed when new homes are under construction. Sprinklers may be retrofitted into an existing home, depending on existing water service size.

### Home fire activation

If a fire occurs, the sprinkler closest to it activates automatically in response to the high heat from a fire. This controls and often extinguishes the flames, reduces the spread of toxic and damaging smoke, and provides time for occupants to escape. When sprinklers are present, fire is kept to the room of origin, 96% of the time (NFPA). In most home fires, only one or two sprinklers will control the blaze. In fires in unsprinklered homes, the toxic smoke spreads widely and more area is exposed to heat, smoke and fire. This requires more water to be used for suppression with powerful fire department hoses, greatly increasing water and fire damage to the structure and contents.

### Quote

“Fire sprinklers have the potential to keep fires small, allowing occupants to escape safely and at the same time, minimize the risk to firefighters,” said Fire Chief Marc Norris.

### Resources

Parksville Fire Rescue website - [Home fire sprinklers](#)

Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition - [Fire sprinkler initiative](#)

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### For more information:

Parksville Fire Rescue  
250 248-3242; [fire@parksville.ca](mailto:fire@parksville.ca)

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