

## **RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM**

### ***GENERAL CARE & MAINTENANCE***

#### **NFPA 13D SYSTEMS – SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING**

##### ***TESTING YOUR FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM:***

- Your new automatic fire sprinkler system should be tested at least quarterly, preferably monthly. If your system is monitored by a fire service agency or local alarm company, be sure to notify them before testing. This will prevent sending a false alarm.
- Open the inspectors test valve (located at the rear of your house) or the main drain valve (inside the riser access panel) and wait for the alarm bell. Due to a built-in delay circuit, this may take several seconds – anywhere from 0 to 60.
- Once the alarm sounds, close all test valves. The alarm will stop shortly thereafter as soon as your system reaches normal operating pressure.
- If the alarm bell does not sound, your system may need service. Please contact us or a licensed fire protection contractor to schedule service.
- Refer to the NFPA 25 booklet for further detailed instruction on the testing and maintenance of fire sprinkler systems.

##### ***SHUTTING DOWN YOUR FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM:***

- If your system is monitored by a fire service agency or local alarm company, be sure to notify them before shutting down your fire sprinkler system.
- To temporarily disable your system, close the main water control valve located inside your water meter box. Note: Your house may have dual control valves (one inside the meter box and one located outside the house - usually on a hose bib. To completely shut down your system, you should close all valves controlling water flow into your home.
- To re-activate your system, *slowly* turn each control valve until they are completely in the open position. Note: The alarm bell may sound while your system is refilling with water. This is normal and should silence when the system reaches normal operating pressure.
- Make certain the system control valves remain open at all times.

##### ***CARING FOR YOUR FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM:***

- *Never* paint your sprinklers *or* their coverplates.
- *Never* attempt to remove any sprinklers *or* their coverplates.
- *Do NOT* caulk or seal the air gap around the sprinkler's coverplate.
- *Don't* damage the sprinklers.
- *Never* hang objects or decorations from the sprinklers.
- *Don't* obstruct the sprinklers.
- Occasionally remove dust from the sprinklers with a soft feather duster.
- *Never* attempt to clean the sprinklers with water, soap or any other type of cleaning fluid.
- *Don't* attempt to shut off the system in the event of a fire. Call the fire department.
- *Don't* disconnect or turn off the sprinkler system (unless it is safe to do so). Contact a licensed fire sprinkler contractor if service is needed.

(Please note: Due to the different requirements each Authority Having Jurisdictions have, your fire sprinkler system may vary from the general guidelines listed above. Refer to the approved shop drawings for locations of system components. Homeowners are responsible for care & maintenance, testing and verification of all information. Consult your homebuilder or a licensed fire sprinkler contractor for additional information. Residential Fire Systems, Inc. shall not be held liable for any incorrect interpretation of the information included in these documents. Requirements and information subject to change without notice.)