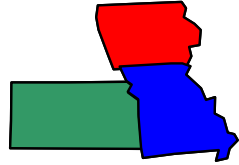




REGIONAL REPORT

Central Edition

www.nfsa.org



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Engineering Questions?
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NFSA Central Region Contractors team up with Habitat for Humanity Chapters to install residential fire sprinklers.

In the Central Region Fire Sprinkler Contractors have unselfishly providing fire sprinklers in new Habitat homes this summer. There could be a total of over 25 new homes that will be equipped with RFFS through Habitat in our Region, and the request are still coming in.

Below is a story that is written by the Maryville Daily Forum out of Missouri. (Northwest Corner of the State). A big thank you and job well done to Western States/ National Fire (Kansas City) and the City of Maryville!

Habitat home equipped with state-of-the-art fire suppression

By TONY BROWN of the Maryville Daily Forum
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When Nodaway County's newest Habitat for Humanity house, currently under construction in Maryville, is completed later this year it will boast one feature possessed by few, if any, other single-family residences in the area — a state-of-the-art fire suppression system.

Workmen from the Western States Fire Protection Co./National Fire Suppression Division installed the heat-activated sprinklers at the East Second Street home last week.

The company, one of the nation's leading fire suppression firms, donated both materials and labor for the project, which was the brainchild of Phil Rickabaugh, director of the Maryville Public Safety fire division, and Municipal Code Enforcement Officer James Wiederholt, who sits on the local Habitat board.

Rickabaugh and Wiederholt made a pitch for the sprinkler system to Chris Gaut of the that National Fire Sprinkler Association in St. Louis, and Gaut convinced Western States to make the in-kind donation, believed to be the first of its kind in western Missouri.

Both Rickabaugh and Wiederholt are fans of residential sprinklers, which they say dramatically decrease the odds of serious injury or death in the event of a house fire. Wiederholt said he hopes the Habitat installation will convince local residents thinking about building a new home to consider incorporating a suppression system into their plans.

"More than anything we wanted to show that the concept is possible, and that it's an option for homeowners," he said.

Added Rickabaugh: "People put in sprinkler systems to keep their grass from dying, but putting in a fire sprinkler system protects your family."

Though few municipal building codes require them, more and more fire protection professionals are advocating home sprinklers, which Rickabaugh said are proven lifesavers. He even has a bumper sticker proclaiming, "Yard sprinklers save your grass, fire sprinklers save your ..." Well, you get the idea.

"Smoke detectors aren't enough, Rickabaugh said. "Smoke alarms cut the risk of a fire-related fatality in half, but with a sprinkler system the odds of a fatality are reduced by 97 percent."

One reason Wiederholt and Rickabaugh are sold on sprinklers has to do with synthetic building materials. Plastic burns faster and hotter than wood and also emits noxious fumes. That means in the typical new home "flashover," the point at which a fire becomes non-survivable, occurs within two or three minutes.

Unless, Rickabaugh said, there's a sprinkler system.

"It's like having a firefighter in your home 24-7," he said. "In most cases a sprinkler will extinguish the fire before the fire truck arrives."

Fears that sprinklers cost too much and cause excessive water damage are unfounded, Wiederholt said. In fact, they usually contain damage to a single room, add only about 1.5 percent to overall construction cost and can lower insurance rates.

"I've got them in my house," said Craig Barulich of Western States, one of two technicians who installed sprinklers in the Habitat house. "It's a great comfort when I see my daughter cooking or when we have candles burning."

Wiederholt said anyone interested in learning more about home sprinkler technology should call him at (660) 562-8027.

The St. Louis Habitat for Humanity also reached out to the St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance early in the year and asked if the Alliance would be willing to consider the design and install for their new homes to be built this summer. Thirty homes to be built in three phases, with the first phase consisting of 7 homes. Seeing that MO has the "mandatory option" law, the STL Habitat for Humanity felt that they should "offer" the RFFS to their customers. But instead of STLHFH trying to sell the idea of RFFS to the home

buyer, they (HFH) asked the STLFSA to give presentations to the new owners about the peace of security and quality of life benefits they will bring to the home. These presentations were given by Wally Miller and John LaVenture of the STLFSA. Not to anyone's surprise, with proper education, 6 out of the 7 first phase homebuyers opted to have RFFS installed into their new homes. The 7th homeowner was not at the presentation and it was reported that that homebuyer may drop out of the HFH program. There were 6 out of 10 homebuyers at the second presentation for phase two of the HFH project. All six of those homebuyers have taken the fire sprinkler option as well.

Iowa Fire Sprinkler Contractors Implement Strategic Plan....

In April the Board of Directors for the Iowa Fire Sprinkler Contractors came together to develop a strategic plan proposal that they will implement for the next three years. Wayne Waggoner, NFSA Regional Manager and Executive Director for the Tennessee Fire Sprinkler Contractors Assoc, helped facilitate the meeting. Wayne has been very successful in TN while helping to develop and executing the TFSCA strategic plan. IFSCA Board Members will hand out the proposal to the regular membership in May and request it starts this June. The three main focus points of the IFSCA plan consist of:

- 1) ***STRENGTHEN THE IOWA FIRE SPRINKLER ASSOCIATION***
- 2) ***PROMOTE THE FIRE SPRINKLER INDUSTRY***
- 3) ***PROTECT THE FIRE SPRINKLER INDUSTRY***

If you are an Iowa Fire Sprinkler Contractor who would like to get more involved with IFSCA please contact IFSCA President Doug Kitzman at 563-388-0060.

From NFSA HQ: Patterson, NY.....

Wilmette, Illinois Passes Residential Fire Sprinkler Ordinance!

Officials from Wilmette, Illinois, passed the village's first residential fire sprinkler ordinance requiring fire sprinklers in all new homes that are being built with lightweight construction. With the passage of this ordinance, the Village of Wilmette becomes the 67th jurisdiction in Illinois to pass residential fire sprinkler legislation. Congratulations to both the village of Wilmette and all those who worked so hard to get this ordinance passed! [Read full story](#)

Relive NFSA Annual Seminar Held in Chicago Through Photo Archive

This weekend will mark one month since NFSA held its 2010 Annual Seminar in Chicago. Despite the lingering economic downturn, members from all over the country turned out in strong numbers to participate in a slate of topical workshop sessions and memorable social events. The city of Chicago even cooperated by gracing all with absolutely perfect weather. Some jogged Lake Shore Drive, others cruised the Magnificent Mile and a privileged few even saw the Cubbies win one at home. Relive the experience by following the links to photos of the entire event.

[General Session](#)

[Reception](#) [Workshops](#) [Banquet](#)

Textbook Inventory Reduction Sale! More than 50% off!

The NFSA's textbook, *Layout, Detailing and Calculation of Fire Sprinkler Systems*, is the most

complete text ever written for the fire sprinkler engineering technician, and it's on sale! **While supplies last**, get it for only \$60 plus shipping and handling for members or \$90 plus shipping and handling for non-members. This text makes an excellent self-study guide for the NICET Automatic Sprinkler Layout and Detail certification program and covers all of the work elements necessary to achieve Level 2 certification and many of the elements needed to achieve Level 3 and Level 4 certification.

[Download order form here](#)

Sprinklerman Makes Debut Appearance of the Season Sunday, May 2 at Somerset Patriots Game!

Yes, it's that time of year again! Sprinklerman will make his debut appearance of the season as the Somerset Patriots take on the Bridgeport Bluefish at TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, New Jersey. Game time is 1:35 p.m. Gates open an hour before the game. Come cheer Sprinklerman on as he throws out the first pitch and participates in on field activities throughout the game. It's Fire Safety Day at the stadium, a perfect occasion for Sprinklerman to strut his stuff and help to educate kids and parents alike about the life and property saving attributes of fire sprinkler systems. For further information, visit the Patriots' website at www.somersetpatriots.com.

NFSA Online Seminars Schedule for 2010: Technical Tuesdays

2010 On-line Series Problem Solving Using New NFPA Standards

Recent changes to the sprinkler and pump standards have made it easier for contractors to solve problems. The 2010 Technical Tuesday seminars will assist the contractors in utilizing the newer documents in order to become more effective and efficient with their system layout and detailing.

******* Special Offers *******

Order all 10 seminars from July through Dec 2010 now and receive 30% off regular price

June 22, 2010 - Soffits, Eaves and Overhangs

Intermediate

Russell P. Fleming, P.E., Executive Vice President

Rules for sprinkler protection of soffits, eaves and overhangs address the need for protection within these construction features as well as the need for protection below. The rules for NFPA 13 are different from those for NFPA 13R and 13D. The NFPA 13 rules, frequently misinterpreted, have been modified further in recent editions of the sprinkler standards

July 20, 2010 - Calculating Sprinklers Under Obstructions

Intermediate

Cecil Bilbo, Jr., C.E.T.

Design technicians frequently ask about the hydraulic calculation procedures for calculating

August 10, 2010 - Air Venting and Relief Valves

Basic

Karl Wiegand, Manager of Installation

Standards

Starting with the 2010 Edition of NFPA 13, all wet

sprinkler systems where additional sprinklers are added under obstructions. The 2010 Edition of NFPA 13 has clarified the rules for when to include sprinklers below obstructions in the sprinkler system demand. The proper hydraulic calculation procedures will vary based on the kind of sprinkler being used at the ceiling, such as spray sprinklers, control mode specific application sprinklers, and ESFR sprinklers. This seminar will discuss the different procedures that need to be followed for each type of ceiling sprinkler when additional sprinklers are added under obstructions.

pipe sprinkler systems are going to have to take into account venting the air from the system as the system is being filled with water in order to minimize corrosion. Once most of the air has been removed from the system, it becomes more important to provide a relief valve to prevent the system from being over-pressurized as the water expands due to changes in temperature. This seminar will explore all of the new rules for providing venting and relief valves under the new standard.

**August 31, 2010 - When to Use NFPA 13R
Basic/Intermediate**

Jeff Hugo, C.B.O., Manager of Codes

NFPA 13R can only be used in certain size and types of occupancies. This presentation will discuss the different types of occupancies that can use NFPA 13R (hotels, motels, lodging and rooming houses, etc.) and the limitations on their size. Typical problems will be addressed including mixed use buildings, pedestal buildings and combination commercial/residential construction. The presentation will examine and review these situations and how the building code and the standard work together.

**September 14, 2010 - Alarm System Interface
Intermediate**

Russell P. Fleming, P.E., Executive Vice President

For buildings with fire alarm systems, NFPA 13 defers to NFPA 72 – the *National Fire Alarm Code*. NFPA 72 in turn has specific requirements relating to sprinkler flow alarms and supervisory signals. This seminar will provide correlation between these two important installation standards, and differentiate between requirements and options.

**September 28, 2010 - Changes to Water
Supply and Hose Stream Requirements
Basic**

Karl Wiegand, Manager of Installation Standards

For the 2010 Edition of NFPA 13, the rules for providing safety factors for water supplies have changed. At the same time, the standard has also clarified how to add hose stream demands for buildings with 2 ½-inch hose connections that are a part of the sprinkler system and for hose stream demands on systems with pumps or tanks. This seminar will explore the evolution of the water supply requirements and the implementation of the hose stream demands.

**October 12, 2010 - Dry Systems and
Residential Occupancies
Intermediate**

Kenneth E. Isman, P.E. Vice President of Engineering

The use of dry pipe systems in residential occupancies has been evolving. NFPA 13 originally allowed the user to protect residential occupancies like any other type of light hazard occupancy when it comes to dry pipe systems. But recent changes have been enacted to make the rules much more stringent. This program will review the evolution in requirements through recent editions of the standard and touch on how NFPA 13R and NFPA 13D handle the subject as well.

October 26, 2010 - High-Rise Buildings with Relationship to NFPA 14 and NFPA 20

Kevin J. Kelly, P.E., NFSA Consultant

The latest editions of NFPA 14 and NFPA 20 have both added new requirements for High-Rise buildings. The NFPA Fire Pump Committee added a whole new chapter to NFPA 20 with many new requirements for fire pumps in these buildings. This seminar will fold the requirements from the two standards into a comprehensive summary of everything that needs to be considered for standpipe systems using fire pumps in High-Rise buildings.

November 9, 2010 - Clearance to Storage Intermediate

Victoria B. Valentine, P.E., Director of Product Standards

Storage can cause a high challenge fire. The amount of clearance between the sprinklers and the top of storage can alter the protection needed in the space. Variations in the sprinkler densities, calculation areas or other protection requirements due to the distance from the top of storage to the sprinklers will be discussed. This seminar will also review recent changes in NFPA 13 to handle scenarios where there is a large clearance between the storage and the sprinklers, including the spacing of in-rack sprinklers.

November 30, 2010 - Rules for Revamping Systems

Intermediate

Russell P. Fleming, P.E., Executive Vice President

NFPA 13 does not define “revamping” of sprinkler systems, but contains some definite rules on the subject. In its broadest sense, revamping refers to all system modifications including tenant changes. This seminar will focus on what is permitted in terms of component re-use, pipe and nipple sizing, testing, and other aspects of these system alterations, including new rules intended to simplify certain types of changes.

December 14, 2010 - Pumps in Series Intermediate

Kenneth E. Isman, P.E. Vice President of Engineering

With the 2010 Edition of NFPA 20, the Committee has created a new set of rules for how to arrange pumps in series. This presentation will focus on the effect of these new rules for high-rise occupancies and other situations where pumps in series are used to increase system pressure.

Business Thursdays

Live web based seminars scheduled on various Thursdays. The topics for the “Business Thursday” seminars have been specially selected to help the fire sprinkler contractor deal with current problem areas in the business environment.

June 17, 2010 - Gathering Stakeholders and Building Bridges- Planning for the IRC adoption

Bruce Lecair - West Regional Manager

Tips on the importance of starting the IRC adoption process early, reaching out to potential opponents, building a strategic plan, setting common goals and objectives, identifying key stakeholders, identifying and resolving stakeholder issues, the importance of educating and listening, utilizing the STEEP (social, technological, economic, ecological and political) model for developing the final recommendations report, and getting the final product out to the stakeholders.