

USA *Automatic Sprinkler Corporation* a fire protection company



What Superior Builders Can't Control



As your builder, we can control the products and craftsmanship utilized in the home-building process. However, we don't have control over what you, the home owner will put inside your new home. Interior furnishings such as upholstered furniture, drapery fabrics, clothing, and liquids such as gasoline and volatile solvents are involved with many fire-related injuries each year. In addition, once these materials are ignited, they emit poisonous and toxic fumes or gases which can suffocate or kill.

Did You Know . . .

- Each year fire kills more Americans than all natural disasters combined.
- About two thirds of these result from children playing with lighters. Most of the victims are under five years old.
- Cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires. Cooking equipment is estimated to be associated with more than 100,000 fires annually, and almost 400 deaths, and 5,000 injuries. Gas cooking equipment accounts for about 30,000 fires and electric cooking equipment for about 55,000 fires.
- Small open flames, including matches, cigarette lighters, and candles are the major source of clothing ignition. The most commonly worn garments that are associated with clothing ignition injuries are pajamas, nightgowns, robes, shirts, blouses, pants, slacks and dresses.
- 28% of home electric-fire related deaths are caused by cords and plugs.
- A major cause of household fires is flammable liquids. These include gasoline, acetone, benzene, lacquer thinner, alcohol, turpentine, contact cements, paint thinner, kerosene, charcoal lighter fluid. The most dangerous of all is gasoline.
- During the 1990's, home fires caused by candles increased by 100%.
- The single most effective way to prevent fire-related deaths is the installation of residential fire sprinklers. Combined with smoke alarms, they cut the risk of dying in a home fire by 82% compared to having neither.
- 22% of all residential fires are a direct result of supplemental heaters (such as wood burning stoves/fireplaces, kerosene heaters, gas-fired space heaters, and portable electric heaters) resulting in 600 deaths, thousands of contact burn injuries, and hundreds of carbon monoxide poisonings each year.
- Each year more than 200 deaths are associated with fires started by cigarette lighters.

(Source: US Consumer Product Safety Commission – Your Home Fire Safety Checklist & The Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition)

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