



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **HOME FIRE SPRINKLERS PROTECT PEOPLE AND PROPERTY**

An effective way to enhance safety and save money can be built right into your home.

Home fire sprinkler systems save lives and property, and the Township of Langley Fire Department encourages those who are building a new home or remodeling to consider installing a fire sprinkler system.

“The risk of dying in a home fire decreases by about 80 per cent when the home is equipped with a fire sprinkler system, and property loss is reduced by 70 per cent,” said Public Fire and Life Safety Educator Krista Barton.

As well, a home fire sprinkler system may reduce homeowners’ insurance premiums.

While some people may worry that sprinklers can be activated by simply burning toast and that excessive water is used, Barton stresses that only the high temperature of a fire will activate the sprinkler, which uses a tenth of the amount of water that firefighters would use to contain a blaze.

Home fire sprinklers are easy to maintain and are environmentally friendly, as they can reduce the amount of water usage and run-off, and decrease pollution and fire damage.

Those using sprinklers should inspect their homes to make sure the systems are not blocked by something that would prevent water from coming out, such as paint, and ensure the main control valve is never turned off.

Home sprinklers can be affected by cold and warm climates. Guidelines have been created for proper installation of systems to avoid freezing pipes. A home fire sprinkler system should be winterized the same way as a domestic water supply.

For more information, call the Township of Langley Fire Department at 604.532.7500.