



Date: October 22, 2011 **Subject:** Property Saved By Sprinklers, According To Sprinkler Advisory Board Member
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Property saved by sprinklers, according to sprinkler advisory board member

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By **Letters to the Editor/The Jersey Journal**

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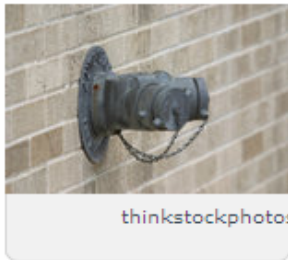
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On Oct. 2, a fire broke out in the kitchen of a fourth-floor Jersey City apartment, caused by unattended cooking. Before the Fire Department even arrived, the small fire was immediately extinguished due to the apartment's fire sprinkler system.

It was reported in The Jersey Journal and on NJ.com that the sprinkler activation caused "significant water damage in the apartment." However, if the fire was not promptly contained by the sprinkler and was given a chance to grow, significantly more damage could have potentially been done by the Jersey City Fire Department's hoses, not to mention the risk to the lives of anyone else in the building at that time.

On average, a household sprinkler may drop 10 to 20 gallons of water per minute and put out the fire by the time firefighters arrive, whereas fire hoses spray up to 1,000 gallons of water per minute.

The most important thing to take from this article is that everyone survived the fire! Water damage can be fixed and repaired; a lost life can never be replaced. A properly installed and maintained fire sprinkler system is the only proactive form of fire protection, providing firefighters the time they need to do their jobs effectively and safely, while helping residents avoid potential tragedies.

DAVID KURASZ
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NEW JERSEY FIRE SPRINKLER ADVISORY BOARD
NORTH BRUNSWICK

