
Fire sprinklers might have helped

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As the recent fire in Asbury Park demonstrates, installing smoke detectors and creating an emergency response plan are important. However, neither of these actions actively work to keep a fire contained or extinguish it, like fire sprinklers do.

If fire sprinklers had been present in the apartment building on Main Street, the serious injuries suffered by an Asbury Park firefighter may have been prevented and property damage might have been drastically reduced.

In many cases, properly installed and maintained fire sprinklers extinguish a fire before the fire department even arrives. More importantly, fire sprinklers could have mitigated the risk to individuals affected by the blaze, including firefighters.

According to the United States Fire Administration, winter fires result in an estimated average of 945 deaths, 3,825 injuries and \$1.7 billion in property loss nationally each year.

Keep fireplaces and heaters clean and clear and use smoke detectors and fire sprinklers to help keep your family protected in the place where they should feel the safest — their homes.