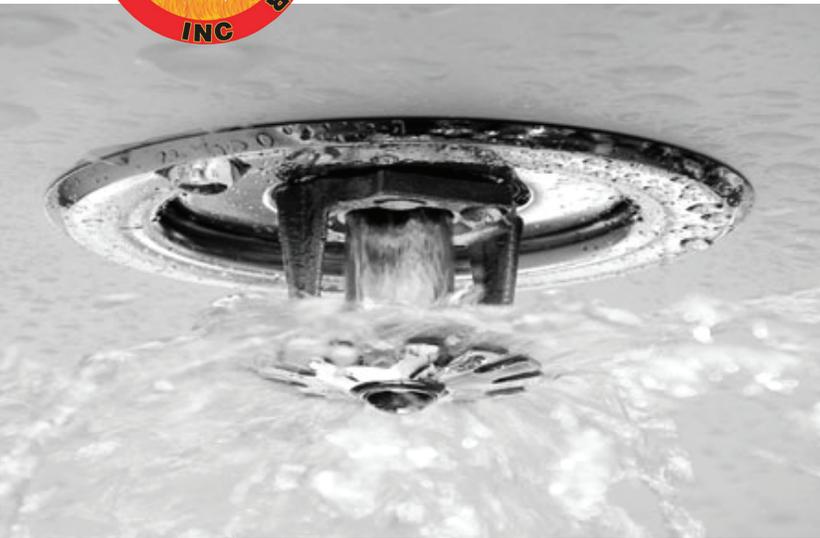




JUST THE FACTS: Fire Sprinkler Systems



Sprinkler systems are new to me. How much is this going to cost?

There is no one, standard sprinkler system design or installation. Just as your staff and services are unique, so is your building and the protection system it will require. Every system Prairie Fire Sprinkler designs is customized to the location to provide the best possible fire protection while meeting regulatory requirements. The good news: We'll provide a free estimate to design and install your system. It's quick and simple for you, and delivers an accurate estimate of costs to fit your building. Our competition will often-times do a ballpark "non-technical" estimate, which leads to expensive changes and delays mid-project.

I have smoke alarms in my home. Isn't that enough protection where I operate my business?

Illinois law actually requires sprinkler systems in most commercial buildings, and this probably applies to your facility. And while a smoke alarm can alert you and your staff to a danger, it cannot eliminate that danger or stop damage in progress. A sprinkler system can control or even extinguish a fire in less time than it would take for the fire department to arrive. Recently during tests, we found smoked detectors involved in the fire actually melted within 30 seconds - making them useless! Sprinklers are the most effective fire protection available.

Even with your free estimate, I'm afraid I can't afford a sprinkler system.

Sprinkler systems do represent an investment but like an insurance policy they protect you from a far greater potential expense. And unlike insurance, they protect lives and property in real time, preventing damage to property and injury to people – things that are often irreplaceable, even with insurance coverage. Oftentimes, your insurance company will provide a discount for buildings equipped with a sprinkler system which can actually help pay back the original costs over time. If your insurance carrier doesn't do this, you might want to find a new carrier!

I'm worried about all of the sprinkler heads going off in a minor fire. Won't it ruin everything?

Sprinkler systems are sophisticated. They very quickly sense precisely where the fire is occurring, and only activate in the area where they are needed. Typically, only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate, spraying water on the fire while leaving the remainder of your property safe and dry. Research shows that in 85 percent of sprinkler activations, just one sprinkler operates to control the fire.

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Won't the water damage from the sprinklers be worse than that caused by a small fire?

Without sprinklers, your fire will likely be extinguished by the fire department, depending on how long the fire department takes to respond. Sprinkler systems are very efficient at extinguishing a fire on-the-spot, and typically cause far less damage than firefighting hose lines. A sprinkler usually spits out around 15 to 20 gallons per minute. A fire hose from a fireman puts out TWENTY TIMES the water!

Won't a sprinkler system ruin my efforts to make my facility attractive to customers and guests?

Many options exist today to support sprinkler installations that help maintain the warm and welcoming aesthetic of an office, retail location or housing facility. System options allow for sprinklers that are very unobtrusive, are mounted flush, or that feature attractive decorative covers. What's more, Prairie Fire Sprinkler, Inc., has extensive experience installing systems that meet high expectations for appearance, new buildings and retrofits.

With Illinois' frigid winters, I'm concerned about freezing pipes in the sprinkler system.

With proper installation and regular maintenance checks, sprinkler systems will not freeze. Prairie Fire Sprinkler, Inc., carefully follows precise installation guidelines that effectively prevent pipes from freezing.

What about leaks and accidental activations? Isn't that putting my business at unnecessary risk?

Sprinklers system leaks are actually uncommon, and occur no more often than a leak from any of the plumbing in your building. Accidental activations also are extremely rare. That's because the systems are activated not by smoke, steam, cooking vapors or the sound of a smoke alarm – but by significant changes in heat.

Won't a sprinkler system require lots of costly maintenance in order to stay in working order over the years?

Considering the importance and complexity of a fire sprinkler system, their regular maintenance is typically pretty affordable – just a few hundred dollars annually. This will vary, particularly for hospitals or nursing homes. But most systems require just one inspection each year at a minimal cost. In the case your fire sprinkler system is called into action to control a fire, inspection costs will pay for themselves many times over.

How do I know I can trust Prairie Fire Sprinkler to handle my sprinkler design, installation and maintenance?

Business owner Lisa Peacock is a certified mechanical engineer, also certified in sprinkler system design, meaning designs are thorough and expert. Project Manager Lee Peacock, who's worked in sprinkler design and installation for 27 years, and Service Manager Larry Feather, an experienced process-pipefitter, add additional expertise and real-life insight. Your on-site installation team features pipefitters with a minimum of 10 years' experience. With 9 years in business, Prairie Fire Sprinkler has accrued countless satisfied customers, protecting thousands of lives and millions in assets. If you'd like references, we'll gladly oblige.

Have more questions?

No problem! Service Manager Larry Feather is ready to answer your questions, setting you on the road to informed decisions about your business's fire protection system. Contact Larry at:



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