

The North American, nonprofit Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC), a national organization, has named Humboldt Bay Fire a **Built for Life Fire Department** to acknowledge its efforts to help the residents of Eureka and the greater Eureka area understand the life-saving importance and requirement of installing home fire sprinklers in new construction homes.

The effects of home fires are far-reaching and longstanding. A home fire can become deadly in less than two minutes due to today's construction materials and common synthetic furnishings that produce toxic smoke. Fire sprinklers detect a fire automatically and control it early on, limiting the spread of deadly smoke and heat, and saving lives. Home fires also put responding firefighters at risk from injury as well as exposure proven to lead to cancer and other health problems.

Each sprinkler is activated by heat; only the sprinkler closest to the fire will operate, spraying water directly on the flames. Combined with working smoke alarms and proper fire escape planning, fire sprinklers in all new homes will make the future safer for residents, first responders, and entire communities for generations to come.

We are proud to receive this recognition for our efforts to expand our fire safety outreach and educate our residents about fire sprinklers. They are one of the most effective fire protection technologies available, and they belong in places where people are at greatest risk – their homes- protecting family members, pets, and responding firefighters.

We urge anyone interested in learning more about home fire sprinklers to contact our Community Risk Reduction Specialist, Amy Conlin, who can provide you with education and materials. Free educational materials are also available at HFSC's website: HomeFireSprinkler.org.

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