

F A L L 2 0 0 8

CHATHAM FIRE



RESIDENTIAL FIRE SPRINKLERS

Excerpt from Massachusetts Building Code 780 CMR 5313.5

Dwellings Requiring Sprinklers.

Automatic sprinklers installed in accordance with NFPA 13D shall be installed in one- and two-family dwellings having an **aggregate area greater than 14,400 square feet** (1338 m²), including basements but not including garages and unfinished attics.

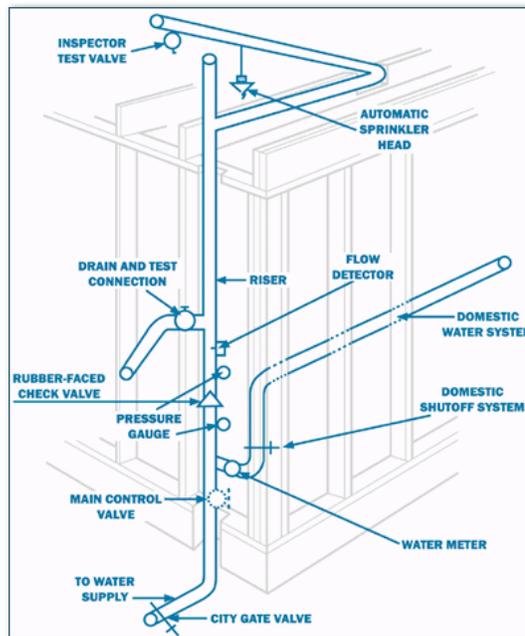
If you build a home with habitable space totaling 14400 square feet you must install a residential fire sprinkler system.

Ironically Chatham long ago adopted a section of Mass. General Law that requires sprinklers to be installed in non-residential new buildings of 7500 or greater square feet.

Sprinklers — The Solution

Fires in residences have taken a high toll of life and property. In 2006 there were:

- 412,500 residential fires
- 2,620 residential fire deaths
- 12,925 residential fire injuries
- \$7.0 billion in residential property damage



Source: National Fire Protection Association Fire Loss in the U.S. During 2006.

Studies by the U.S. Fire Administration indicate that the installation of residential fire sprinkler systems could have saved thousands of lives; prevented a large portion of those injuries; and eliminated hundreds of millions of dollars in property losses.

Great Links:

- www.homefiresprinkler.org
- www.fresno.gov/Fire/PSA view In Home Sprinklers
- www.firesafety.gov/citizens/sprinklers

For
Your
Safety



The installation standard for residential sprinklers is NFPA 13D.

The standard intends to confine the fire and provide time to escape.

Systems can be designed for municipal water or homes served by wells.

Insurers offer fire premium reductions for having fire sprinklers.

Smoke and heat detectors detect a fire; sprinklers confine or extinguish fires.

*For other safety tips:
www.chatham-ma.gov
then go to Fire Department page*