

Penticton Fire Department to take part in Home Fire Sprinkler Day

(Penticton BC, May 23, 2018) – This Saturday, May 26, the Penticton Fire Department is taking part in a North America-wide campaign initiated by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition (HFSC) to raise awareness of the growing dangers of home fires and the life-saving benefits of installing fire sprinklers in new homes.

“Every year, the majority of fire deaths in North America happen at home,” says Fire Prevention Officer, Cpt. Mike Richards. “Simply put, that’s unacceptable. There is a solution and it starts with local action.”

Home Fire Sprinkler Day is an opportunity for everyone in Penticton to learn about new-home dangers, get the facts about lifesaving sprinkler technology and make progress against the home fire problem. The Penticton event will be held at The Penticton Farmers Market, 100 Block Main Street from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

“Many people lose sight of the fact that home fires are dangerous not just to residents but also to firefighters,” says Cpt. Richards. “Today’s new houses are built with lightweight construction and big open designs and they’re filled with synthetic furnishings. When they burn, they fail fast, and that environment places firefighters at risk from fire as well as toxins that lead to disease.”

Did you know?

- Modern home fire sprinklers are inexpensive to install (\$1.50 per sprinklered sq. ft., nationally – NFPA), with discounted insurance rates that may be available through your local insurance company.
- Fire sprinklers reduce the risk of dying in a home fire by 80 percent, and reduce the risk of property damage by 70 percent (NFPA).
- The sprinkler controls fire damage and confines it. That protects lives as well as surrounding rooms, limiting property damage.
- Home fire sprinklers give residents more time to escape a fire safely. That prevents injuries and saves lives.

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For more information contact the Fire Prevention Division, Penticton Fire Department at 250-490-2300 or fire@penticton.ca