Fire Sprinkler System Guidelines

When a sprinkler is activated, large amounts of water will pour out. The water cannot be stopped until the system is shut off (after the Department of Public Safety determines that it is safe to do so). The amount of water dispensed by an activated sprinkler head is significant. Pooling of water will extend to nearby rooms on the same floor, as well as to rooms on lower levels.

Only sprinkler heads directly activated by heat, fire or damage will dispense water. That is, the activation of one head near a fire will not cause other heads to dispense water if they are not also in the area of a fire. The University of Michigan and University Housing assume no liability for damage to personal property resulting from the activation of fire suppression systems. We strongly recommend that you insure your personal property for the time you are living in the residence halls. Your parents’ or guardians’ homeowner’s insurance policy may or may not already provide such coverage. If not, you may arrange to add a provision or take out a renter’s insurance policy.

Precautions

- Do not remove or tamper with the sprinkler head, cage, or any part of the system.
- Do not hang ANYTHING from a sprinkler head, the cage around it or from any other part of the fire suppression equipment, including the pipes.
- Keep a clearance of 18” around sprinkler heads, including those in closets.
- Keep sources of heat away from the sprinkler heads.
- Avoid hitting the sprinkler heads when moving items into, out of or around your room.
- Do not engage in sports or horseplay that could result in anything striking a sprinkler head anywhere in the residence hall. It may activate the system.
- Report any damaged or missing sprinkler head cages (or other damaged components) to FIXIT at 647.2059 immediately.

Any student involved in vandalism—including intentional activation — of any fire or life safety equipment will be referred to the Office of Student Conflict Resolution (OSCR) for violation of the Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities, and may be subject to legal proceedings as well. Consequences to students found responsible for such vandalism will be serious: they will be assessed financial restitution and may be suspended from the University.

Please direct any questions about the fire suppression system to the University Fire Marshal at 734.764.6185.