

Streamwood Fire Department

PRESS RELEASE

RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER SYSTEM CONTAINS FIRE

STREAMWOOD (IL) – A residential automatic fire sprinkler system helped to minimize fire damage to a Streamwood house on April 20, 2007. The residents were preparing dinner when smoke detectors alerted them to the fire. They investigated and found a fire burning in a second floor bedroom. All residents were able to safely exit the home and called 911. Firefighters arrived seven minutes later and found a single sprinkler head had activated in the fire room and effectively contained the fire to its point of origin. The remaining fire was quickly extinguished using a portable water extinguisher.

Fire Chief Ralph Pytlarz credits the sprinkler system for minimizing damage. He said, “The detection and sprinkler systems worked to design by providing early notification to the residents and containing the fire until our arrival”. He continued, “The sprinkler system definitely minimized the amount of fire damage. If sprinklers were not present, the fire would have likely spread beyond the bedroom prior to our arrival.”

The cause was determined to be an electrical malfunction in a lizard cage. Fire damage was limited to the room of origin with moderate smoke damage throughout the second floor. Minor water damage was present on the first and second floors. The Village of Streamwood established a residential fire sprinkler system ordinance in 2002, which requires a NFPA 13-D system to be installed in all new residences. This was Streamwood’s first fire in a protected home since the ordinance was enacted.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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