

WATER SPRINKLERS

Vanderbilt has installed **fire suppression water sprinklers** in all residence halls and Greek Houses.

A fire in a sprinkled room melted a plastic shelf and the TV on it, but a single sprinkler extinguished the fire before the nearby bedding caught fire!





Sprinkler Safety Tips:

- Even though sprinklers should control the rate of smoke and fire spread, when a fire alarm sounds <u>EVACUATE</u>!
- In a small fire, water sprinklers deliver gallons of run-off water. This water can flow down the hall and enter rooms several doors down, destroying any valuables left on the floor. Make sure you store items that can be damaged by water at least 4 inches above the floor.
- Maintain an 18 inch clearance space between the level of sprinklers in your rooms and any storage or furnishings.
 - Items placed or hung in that space may block the water and prevent it from suppressing a fire.
 - Items placed within 18 inches of the sprinkler level may ignite and the sprinkler's spray might not reach the flame.
- Avoid hanging anything from sprinklers or piping:

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- Items hung from sprinklers or piping affect fire control efficiency.
- When a student tried to use sprinkler piping as a chinning bar. It broke and several floors were flooded.



Vanderbilt Environmental Health & Safety www.safety.vanderbilt.edu www.vanderbilt.edu/firesafety