



# Community Alert Notification



Kittitas County Fire District 7

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## Fire Safety Bulletin

Over the past three years, Kittitas County Fire District 7 has seen a significant increase of broken home fire sprinkler systems in homes throughout the Suncadia and Tumble Creek communities during prolonged, very cold weather events. These broken sprinkler systems have resulted in **significant** secondary damage to the homes due to flooding. After these breaks occur, the fire suppression system to the home must be shut down until the system can be repaired. This adds elevated fire risk to the home as it will not be protected by a fire suppression system. Here are some proactive steps you can take to help prevent and prepare for these events:

### Winter Preparation

1. Identify where your fire suppression system water shut-off is.
2. If your home is used as a rental, note the location of the water shut off in an "In case of emergency" document for renters. This info can be given to firefighters when they arrive, or they can locate the document, to help expedite shutting off the water.
3. Have your home fire suppression system serviced annually by a professional company.
4. Have your heating system inspected annually to make sure it is in good working order for the winter season.
5. Monitor the local weather conditions/temperatures and adjust the home furnace with a Wi-Fi-enabled thermostat or have a neighbor willing to turn up the heat in your home during freezing temperatures.
6. Please make sure you have your emergency contact information updated with Suncadia.
7. Please consider adding a Residential Knox Box to your home.



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## What is a Knox Box?

Residential Knox Boxes are high-security key safes that are trusted by your local fire department. They provide first responders access to your home during emergencies when people inside are unable to open the door, or if the homeowner is not home.

### WHO INSTALLS KNOX BOXES?

Your Residential Knox Box can be installed by any trusted maintenance professional, handyman, or contractor.

### LINK TO ORDER

<https://www.knoxbox.com/Products/Residential-KnoxBoxes>

-Select Washington then **Kittitas County District 7**

### WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU INSTALL?

Give us a call! 509-649-2789. Our office will schedule a time to meet with you to lock your key in the box.

**Please also include with your key a business card size paper with your contact information so the fire department can notify you or your emergency contact.**

## HOW DOES THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS YOUR HOME IN AN EMERGENCY?

### RESIDENTIAL KNOX BOXES RAPID ACCESS IN AN EMERGENCY





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**Questions?**

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