

## **Spring Into Fire Sprinkler Maintenance!**

Spring is a tricky season. The weather is getting warmer, but there's always the chance of an unexpected winter freeze up. What can you do to get ready? This article is meant to provide some guidance to prepare for the upcoming season.

**Tip #1, keep the heat on low, but NEVER shut it off and NEVER set the temperature so low that it could cause your pipes to freeze.**

One of the most important things to remember is temperature control. It's important to keep your heat running at all times. Buildings with wet sprinkler systems should NEVER allow the temperature to drop below 60 degrees. Frozen sprinkler systems can not only result in frozen pipes exploding and causing significant water damage but can also prevent the sprinkler system from operating during a fire.

While dry systems are not as vulnerable to freezing compared to wet fire sprinkler systems, they're still capable of freezing. The air in the sprinkler pipes contain moisture, which can condense in the low points of the pipes and freeze.

You may think you're saving some money on your heating bill, but those savings are nothing compared to what you will pay to replace a frozen pipe that has burst, not to mention any clean up from the water damage.

**Tip #2, Monitor your system; do a quick visual inspection to make sure everything looks good. If you see any leaks or puddles that shouldn't be there, call Burke Fire right away. Don't hesitate, you never know when another cold snap can happen.**

Once the winter temps have begun to thaw, it's important to review your system and check for any obvious leaks or drips. This change in temperature can take a toll on metal and plastic pipes. Any flaws that were not visible during the winter can suddenly become problematic as the water stored within the pipes expand and contract during the cold weather months. It may be necessary, to drain the low points on your system to help keep moisture out of the pipes or replace a dripping head. Left unchecked, a small leak can turn into something much worse that could have a negative impact on the operation of your fire sprinkler system.

**Tip #3, Schedule your annual fire sprinkler inspection.**

Call the pros! Our trained Technicians will inspect your whole system, checking over everything for any signs of damage. We'll provide you with an inspection report and if there are any deficiencies, we'll let you know what they are and what needs to be done to fix them. Our customers have the confidence that if their sprinkler system is ever activated, it will perform as designed.