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Incident Coding for Sprinklers

With more and more properties adding sprinkler systems, it would be a good idea to go over a few examples of coding sprinkler incidents. This is located under the Structure Fire Module M1-M5.

You arrive at a residential fire scene. Fire sprinkler heads have activated in three rooms of the house and extinguished the fire.

Under the Structure Fire Module you would choose

- M1 – Presence of Automatic Extinguishment System
1 System present
- M2 – Type of Automatic Extinguishment System
1 Wet pipe sprinkler
- M3 – Automatic Extinguishment System Operation
1 Operated and effective
- M4 Number of Sprinkler Heads Operating
5

You arrived at a sprinklered property with active fire, upon extinguishment; you found the system tripped with no discharge due to closed valve.

Under the Structure Fire Module you would choose

- M1 – Presence of Automatic Extinguishment System
1 System present
- M2 – Type of Automatic Extinguishment System
1 Wet pipe sprinkler
- M3 – Automatic Extinguishment System Operation
4 Failed to operate
- M5 – Automatic Extinguishment System Failure Reason
1 System shut off

NHFIRS data for 2006 through 2009 shows that in 76 structure fire cases, the Automatic Extinguishment System operated and was effective. Where in only 34 structure fire cases, the Automatic Extinguishment System failed to operate.

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