



Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 2019

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## **Business Tax Incentives Promote Investment In Life-Saving Fire Sprinkler Systems**

LAKE BARRINGTON, IL—Fire sprinkler systems are among the best investments business owners can make when it comes to protecting their employees, customers, and other valuable assets – such as property and inventory – from dangerous, destructive fires.

For cost-conscious companies operating in a hyper-competitive marketplace, however, the installation price (ranging from \$1 to \$2 per square foot for new construction and \$2 to \$7 for building retrofits) may seem prohibitive.

Fortunately, tax legislation approved in 2017 provides incentives designed to make it more affordable for business owners to protect their futures:

- Under Section 179 of the Federal Tax Code, small businesses are now allowed to deduct the cost of installing fire sprinklers on their federal tax returns (up to \$1 million per year). \*
- Businesses may also deduct the interest on any loans they take out to fund these upgrades. \*
- The law allows larger companies to fully expense these costs through 2022. Allowable deductions will decrease each year after. \*\*

Sources:

\*[U.S. Fire Administration](#)

\*\*[Northern Illinois Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board](#)

“Fire sprinkler systems are designed to contain a fire at its origin and prevent it from spreading to other parts of a structure,” explains BCFPD Fire Prevention Director Rob Martel. “Sprinklers buy additional time for customers and staff members to evacuate and help minimize the risk of serious injury before firefighters arrive on-scene.”

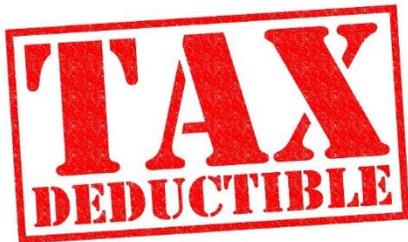
The BCFPD recommends that property and business owners first consult with a tax professional to fully understand the law’s impact on their specific situation.

For more information on the benefits of fire sprinkler systems, contact BCFPD Fire Prevention Director Rob Martel (224-848-4860 or [rmartel@bcfpd.us](mailto:rmartel@bcfpd.us)).

### **About the BCFPD**

Established in 1940, the Barrington Countryside Fire Protection District serves portions of Barrington Hills, South Barrington, Lake Barrington and Inverness; and portions of unincorporated Cook, Lake and McHenry Counties. BCFPD services are strengthened through a series of automatic aid agreements and partnerships with 13 surrounding fire departments and fire districts.

The Board of Trustees meets the third Monday of each month, 6:30 p.m., at the District’s Lake Barrington headquarters, 22222 N. Pepper Road. For more information on BCFPD operations, activities and events, call 224-848-4800, visit [www.bcfpd.org](http://www.bcfpd.org), or access the Department’s [Facebook page](#).



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