

## Obstructed Fire Department Connections (FDCs) Block Fire Attack

FIRE DEPARTMENT CONNECTION (FDC) PROTECTION

Wallingford Apartments - Edina, MN  
Courtesy of Fire Marshal Thomas Jenson, Edina, MN FD

### PROBLEM

- Debris introduced into unprotected standpipe connections.
- Tennis ball, 3 birds and bird nest traveled a total of 550 ft and clogged the backup fire line, endangering the lives of primary attack crew fighting the fire.
- Fire crews were able to evacuate the residents from the building before being forced to withdraw.
- Structure was lost and demolished due to fire, displacing all families.
- In this case, the end result may have been the same had fire lines remained operational. However, the lives of the responding crews were placed at greater risk as a result of unprotected FDCs.



Before fire



FDCs left vulnerable to debris, clogging the pipes



After fire



After demolition

### SOLUTION

#### ► The Knox FDC Protection Program is:

- ✓ Authorized by 2018 International Fire and Building Codes.
- ✓ Supplies long-term FDC protection against vandalism.
- ✓ Prevents foreign matter from entering sprinkler systems.
- ✓ Saves business owners money. Unprotected connections may need to be flushed each time a cap is found missing—which can cost up to \$1,500.
- ✓ Provides secure protection at no cost to your department.

For more information, call  
**800-552-5669**

