



Protecting Sprinkler Heads: A Simple Step to Prevent Major Damage

Scenario:

During gym class, a student launched a basketball high into the air—nothing unusual, just part of an energetic scrimmage. However, this routine play took a costly turn when the ball struck an overhead sprinkler head. The impact shattered the fragile glass bulb inside, activating the sprinkler and releasing hundreds of gallons of water onto the hardwood court.

By the time help arrived, the gym floor was significantly flooded. Between drying out the subfloor, refinishing damaged sections, and mold remediation, the total repair reached well into the five-figure range.

What Went Wrong?

The sprinkler head was unprotected, a common oversight in high-activity areas like gyms and cafeterias.

A Low-Cost Fix for a High-Cost Risk:

An effective and affordable solution school districts can incorporate is to install sprinkler cages that surround and protect the sprinkler head. These \$10-\$20 guards are easy to install and prevent damage without affecting sprinkler function.

Regulatory Reminder:

Please review <u>Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)</u> standards to ensure compliance and avoid preventable losses.

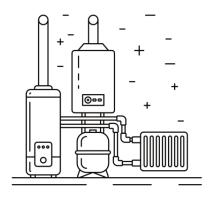
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Water Treatment Training
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Tuesday, September 30, 2025 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Location: CHUBB Risk Engineering Center 35 Columbia Road Branchburg, NJ 08876



CHUBB Risk Engineering Services, in partnership with NJSIG, is offering its final in-person trainings of the year. These trainings are included as part of your NJSIG membership!

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Register by Saturday, Sept. 27, 2025 at 1:00 PM. Visit <u>CHUBB Registration</u>. Note: NJSIG members must create an account before registering.

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