

Press Release

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company Launches "Green" Homeowners Insurance in Maryland

Insurer to Offer Innovative, Environmentally Friendly Coverage; Five Percent Discount Given to Green Homeowners

NOVATO, Calif., (Apr. 8, 2009) – Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the nation's first provider of green insurance, has introduced green insurance for homeowners in Maryland.

Setting a new standard, Fireman's Fund (www.firemansfund.com/green) is offering this innovative product to homeowners who currently own green homes or who want to upgrade their residences with green features after a loss using environmental safety and efficiency standards. If a home is completely destroyed, it can be rebuilt to green standards, certified as having Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design status (LEED® , www.usgbc.org/leed).

"We believe this is a trend-setting insurance solution for homeowners who are interested in the many benefits of 'going green' at home," said Donald Soss, vice president of Fireman's Fund Personal Insurance.

Homeowners whose residences are already green will be offered a five percent discount on this coverage, applied to the homeowner premium.

Baltimore County Council is a supporter of green residential building. Bill #28-08 provides tax credits (40 – 100 percent) for new residential construction earning a minimum of LEED Silver certification. It was adopted on April 22, 2008. The tax credits will be in effect for three years or up to \$1 million in total incentives (effective June 4, 2008). According to the U.S. Green Building Council, Maryland Chapter, there are currently 520 LEED registered projects in the state of Maryland. (<http://chapters.usgbc.org/baltimore/>)

A green home uses less energy, water and natural resources, and creates less waste. Studies have shown that residents have better overall health and productivity as a result of reduced exposure to mold, mildew and indoor toxins. According to the National Center for Healthy Housing (www.centerforhealthyhousing.org), homeowners can expect substantial health gains by building green.

With this new coverage, homeowners will be able to rebuild and replace with green alternatives such as:

- Energy Star®-rated appliances, lighting, electronic equipment and roofing/insulation
- An Energy Star upgrade of heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems
- Forest Stewardship Council (www.fcsus.org) certified wood for millwork, ceilings, siding and framing, including bamboo flooring
- Non-toxic, low odor paints and carpeting
- Water-saving plumbing fixtures
- Elimination of ozone-depleting refrigerants and fire extinguishing agents, replaced with environmentally friendly alternatives
- Debris removed after damage to a home will be recycled and diverted from landfill

The Fireman's Fund green homeowners insurance is now approved for homeowners in 36 states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, Nevada, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming).

Fireman's Fund was recognized by the Environmental Defense Fund for its contributions to the green movement in a new report, "Innovations Review 2008: Making *Green* the New Business as Usual" (www.edf.org/InnovationsReview). Fireman's Fund was the only insurer highlighted in the report that includes the latest trends and best practices that demonstrate how environmental sustainability efforts are creating new markets and providing competitive advantages.

About Fireman's Fund

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal, commercial and specialty insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor's Rating Services. Fireman's Fund is a member of the Allianz Group (NYSE: AZ), one of the world's largest providers of insurance and financial services. For additional information, visit www.firemansfund.com/green.

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