



Humboldt Bay Fire News Release

533 C St.
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 441-4000

Install.



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Smoke Alarms Save Lives.

September 14, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject : Quick Action by Apartment Tenants Extinguish Neighbor's Kitchen Fire

Contact : Chris Emmons, Battalion Chief

Today at 12:01 P.M. Humboldt Bay Fire responded to a reported structure fire at 30 Chope Street. Upon arrival, fire personnel found light smoke coming from an upstairs apartment. Fire personnel investigated further and found that a cooking fire had occurred on the stove and had started to ignite nearby cabinets.

When the fire ignited, the tenant immediately evacuated the apartment and notified neighbors of the fire. . All occupants had evacuated the apartments and were gathered safely away from the building. The tenant also notified the fire department. Neighbors retrieved their fire extinguishers and extinguished the fire on the cabinets and stove prior to Humboldt Bay Fire's arrival. Had it not been for the quick action of the neighbors, this fire would have been much more significant. The fire department remained on scene to aid with smoke removal.

Although a fire occurred, there were no injuries and property damage was limited due to the property management company's adherence to fire codes, the tenant remaining in attendance at the stove while cooking, the quick action of neighbors, and early notification of the fire department. All apartment buildings of three or more units are required to have a fire extinguisher on each level within 75 feet of travel.

The cause of the fire was attributed to a buildup of grease from normal use under the surface of the stovetop. Humboldt Bay Fire would like to remind everyone to take the extra time to clean under the stovetop regularly. Humboldt Bay Fire also provides fire extinguisher training, free of charge. If interested, please contact us at (707) 441-4000.