

Press Release
Harrisonburg Fire Department
101 North Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

For Immediate Release

Date: October 7, 2013

Contact: Lieutenant Wanda Willis (432-7703)

The Harrisonburg Fire Department will be at the Valley Mall – 1925 East Market - J.C. Penney Court October 7-12 celebrating National Fire Prevention Week (FPW). The week long display features information for you to learn how to keep your family safe from fires.

Take a tour of the display and receive one free set of Stovetop Firestop extinguishers for your home (while supplies last). According to the latest National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) research, cooking is the leading cause of home fires. Cooking fires are also the leading cause of home fire-related injuries.

"Often when we're called to a fire that started in the kitchen, the residents tell us that they only left the kitchen for a few minutes," said Lt. Wanda Willis. "Sadly, that's all it takes for a dangerous fire to start. We hope that our Fire Prevention Week display will help us reach folks in the community before they've suffered a damaging lesson." A new display this year shows the effects of a Stovetop Firestop that activated and put out a fire last week in a home in Harrisonburg.

Wednesday October 9th will be Senior Citizens Day. As we age, our risk of death from fire increases significantly. Stop by the Fire Prevention Week display Wednesday morning and receive fire safety tips on how you can save lives from unintentional fire death, including your own. Light refreshments will be available 9:00 a.m. until noon Wednesday.

During FPW week Harrisonburg and Rockingham County residents can register to be part of the Emergency Alert System. This method of outreach is an additional resource for community members to be notified in the event of an emergency situation in this area. Anyone who lives or works in the City of Harrisonburg or Rockingham County should register for this free notification.

The Fire Prevention Week display will be open 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. each day.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 50,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov. The Harrisonburg Fire Department is rated Fire Class 3 out of a 1 to 10 ranking by the Insurance Service Organization (ISO). In the nation only 3.6% of fire departments have received a Class 3 rating. More information about the Harrisonburg Fire Department is online at www.harrisonburgfire.org and on Twitter @HFDVA.