



City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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HFD Prepares for Fire Prevention Week

Harrisonburg, VA. – The Harrisonburg Fire Department (HFD) is gearing up for the annual Fire Prevention Week, which is recognized October 9-15.

Firefighters and staff members from HFD will be at the Valley Mall, in the J.C. Penney court, to explain the displays and provide educational information on fire safety and fire prevention.

“We want to educate people in our community on ways to stay safe, but most importantly we want them to take that information back and practice safe habits at home,” explained Wanda Willis, fire prevention specialist with HFD.

Home fires have proven to be one of the most fatal with approximately eight out of 10 fire-related deaths taking place in the home.

This year, in partnership with Safe Kids Central Shenandoah Valley, HFD is recognizing Saturday, October 15 as Home Fire Drill Day. Members of the community are reminded to create a fire escape plan and communicate and practice the plan with members of your family.

Home Fire Drill Day tips:

- Pick a family safety spot outside that is near your home and a safe distance away.
- Test all smoke alarms with your kids so they know what the beep sounds like.
- For children under six years old, assign an adult to help them.
- Use a timer to ensure everyone can get out to the safety spot in two minutes or less. This is how much time a family has to safely exit the house in the event of a fire.
- Prepare for the practice by drawing out a plan based on the exits around the home.

Additional information on Home Fire Drill day is available at www.homefiredrillday.com and details on HFD’s Fire Prevention Week can be found at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/fire-prevention-week.

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