For Immediate Release – Aug. 3, 2023

Contact: Michael Parks, Harrisonburg Director of Communications
540.432.7701
Michael.Parks@harrisonburgva.gov

Working smoke alarm helps three escape Kelley Street house fire

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The Harrisonburg Fire Department responded to a structure fire call Thursday morning, Aug. 3, in the 200 block of Kelley Street after three residents sleeping inside were alerted to a fire and able to escape thanks to a working smoke alarm in the home.

Five engines – four with HFD and one with Rockingham County Fire & Rescue – and one HFD ladder truck responded to the call. The first responding unit arrived within three minutes of the 9-1-1 call being received by the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Emergency Communications Center.

Arriving units found fire showing from the rear of the home and heavy smoke from all sides. Individuals who were home at the time were evaluated on the scene for smoke inhalation but were not injured. The Harrisonburg Rescue Squad assisted at the scene.

(Above) Firefighters at the scene of a fire on Thursday in the 200 block of Kelley Street.

The Harrisonburg Fire Marshal's Office has determined the cause to be an accidental fire originating in the kitchen. Damages are estimated to be $125,000.

In total, eight adults living in the home were displaced by the fire. The American Red Cross is working to assist the individuals with temporary housing at this time.

The City of Harrisonburg *is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 55,700 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is online at* *www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.*