



AFTER THE FIRE

Tips to Prevent Fires

Bureau of Fire Prevention ~ 40 Summit Drive
843-682-5140



On January 8, 2017 Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue was dispatched to a structure fire. Upon arrival, crews found a multifamily residential building with heavy smoke and flames coming from the unit.

The fire started in the bedroom and the unit had significant damage. The units next to the fire unit had smoke and fire damage as well.

A fire will change your life in ways that you can not even begin to imagine. Below are some tips to help you prevent this from happening at your home.

Fire safety starts with you so—PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY EVERYDAY!!

Please contact the Fire & Life Safety Educator at 843-682-5141 with any questions.

Interior photos courtesy of the Island Packet



PLAN YOUR ESCAPE

Your home!

The more clutter you have in your home, the hotter and faster the fire will burn.

Excessive clutter can also be a deterrent in escaping quickly in a fire. During a fire you can easily become disoriented and if pathways are blocked or cluttered, you may not be able to find your way out.

Excessive clutter may also cause you to trip and fall during a hurried exit.

Smoke Alarms!

Smoke alarms are your first warning to get out of your home when there is a fire.

Most deaths occur when people are sleeping because smoke numbs the senses and can cause a deeper sleep. That's why smoke alarms should be installed inside and outside each bedroom.

Test your smoke alarms every month by pushing the test button.

Change your smoke alarm batteries twice a year and replace your smoke alarms every 10 years.

Have an escape plan!

Create an escape plan and practice it twice a year.

Make sure everyone knows the sound of the smoke alarm.

Make sure everyone knows of at least 2 ways out.

Plan for everyone to meet at a designated meeting place.