



Mark C. Denney, Chief of Police



Frank W. Cook, Fire Chief

February 17, 2016

## Smoke Alarm Alerts Occupant

Approximately 4:20 PM this afternoon, the Colerain Township Department of Fire – EMS was dispatched to the report of a structure fire with smoke showing from the front door in the 10200 block of Storm Drive. The first arriving Colerain fire units found a smoke alarm sounding and the occupant outside the structure.

While there was smoke throughout the home, the main body of fire was confined to the kitchen area. The fire was quickly extinguished but not before there was heavy damage to the kitchen appliances and cabinets. The investigation found that the occupant had come home and started to cook some food on the stove, but fell asleep in a nearby bedroom. One of the smoke alarms in the residence alerted the occupant of the fire and he reacted properly by immediately leaving the house and then calling the fire department.

The preliminary damage estimate was set at \$ 15,000 for the fire damage to the kitchen and smoke damage throughout the house. Units from both Springfield Township and Forest Park assisted the Colerain units on the scene.

On Tuesday evening a similar kitchen fire occurred on New Market Drive also in Colerain Township. In that case as well smoke alarms sounded and both occupants safely left their home, but both were treated for smoke inhalation. These incidents point to the fact that kitchen fires remain the leading cause of accidental fires in the home.

If a fire occurs in the kitchen here are a few fire safety suggestions:

: If a small fire is confined to a pan and has not spread, cover the pan with a lid, turn off the burner, have everyone leave the residence and call the fire department. Even the smallest fires need to be checked out by firefighters for any hidden damage or extension to other areas of the stove, oven or cabinets. Never attempt to move the pan under any circumstances as grease may splatter out, burn you or spread the fire to other combustibles.

: In all other instances, alert everyone in the house to leave and call the fire department. Once everyone is out, do not reenter the building.

: Make sure your smoke alarms are working before any fire occurs by pushing and holding the 'test' button for about one second. The 'beep – beep' sound should then be heard indicating the smoke alarm is working and the batteries are good.

---

For more information, please call Battalion Chief Chuck Palm at 513-825-6143 or at [cpalm@colerain.org](mailto:cpalm@colerain.org)

Colerain Township Department of Fire – EMS  
"Fully Involved – Fully Engaged"