

5TH WHEEL FIRE (PHOTO)

News Release from **Bend Fire & Rescue**

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Yesterday evening, Nov 19th, at 9:55 pm Bend Fire & Rescue crews responded to the report of a structure fire at 22015 Bear Creek Road. On arrival crews found a fully involved 1981 Hitch Hiker 5th Wheel camper that was the home of a family of 4. Family evacuated the camper immediately after finding the fire and there was no report of injuries. The crews were quickly able to extinguish the fire and prevent it to extending to any vegetation or additional structures. The total loss of the Camper was 3000.

There were no smoke detectors in the camper that alerted the occupants. Occupants were alerted of the fire when one of the family members opened the bathroom door and found the room on fire. The occupants immediately evacuated and called 911.

Investigation of the cause of the fire was completed this afternoon. It was found that a stick of incense was placed in the bathroom held by a wicker basket. The incense caught the basket and contents on fire. This fire quickly extended to the bathroom and the rest of the camper.

The camper was not insured. The family does have a place to stay and support.

Bend Fire & Rescue would like to remind the community that the burning of incense can start a fire if not properly used and disposed. It is important when burning incense to make sure the holder is non-flammable, the embers are kept away from combustible items, and the incense is properly extinguished before leaving the incense unattended.

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