

STRUCTURE FIRE AT 62550 POWELL BUTTE HIGHWAY ON 6/17/23 (PHOTO)

News Release from **Bend Fire & Rescue**

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Downloadable file: [Photo courtesy of Bend Fire & Rescue](#)

At 11:00 pm on June 17, 2023, Bend Fire & Rescue was dispatched to a reported structure fire at 62550 Powell Butte Highway. The initial report was a fire on the deck of a home, with residents safely evacuated and attempting to fight the fire with garden hoses. On arrival, the fire was found to be confined to a large exterior deck and siding of the home. While there was no direct fire damage inside the home, there was moderate smoke damage and some water damage as several large windows had broken during the homeowners suppression efforts. This is common when cold water encounters heated glass. Damage is estimated at \$125,000 to the structure and \$25,000 to contents. The occupants declined Red Cross assistance. Mutual aid was provided by a water tender from the Alfalfa Fire District.

Upon investigation, the cause was determined to be improper disposal of smoking materials. Cigarettes should always be discarded into a non-combustible container, never disposed of in landscaping or into anything that can burn.

Smoke alarms save lives! The homeowners were woken by the smoke alarms in the home activating. They acted quickly to evacuate their home and call 911, exactly the right actions to take. In the event of a fire, seconds count. You may have as little as two to three minutes to safely evacuate. The earlier the smoke alarm sounds, the more time you and your family have to escape. Do you know if your smoke alarms work? If they are over 10 years old, they may not sound in the event of a fire. Alarms over 10 years of age should be replaced. For more information on home fire safety and smoke alarms, visit our website at <https://www.bendoregon.gov/government/departments/fire-rescue/safety-tips-emergency-preparedness/year-round-safety-tips>.

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