

Cause of fire at NE Bend home under investigation

by Cheryl McDermott

Officials report the cause of a fire in the living room of a northeast Bend home Wednesday evening has yet to be determined and estimated \$65,000 in damage to the structure and contents.

Bend Fire Captain Andy Hood reported that an alarm was received about 7:45 p.m., November 14. Three engine companies, a command vehicle and 14 firefighters responded to the 1,200 square-foot single-story home at 1041 NE 8th Street and found moderate smoke with visible fire in the living room near the front of the residence. Firefighters extinguished the blaze that was contained to the living room area, but caused extensive heat and smoke damage throughout the home.

Captain Hood estimated \$50,000 in damage to the \$250,000 home, and \$15,000 in damage to its contents.

The sole occupant had evacuated the home owned by Pam Durham prior to the arrival of fire crews, and no one was injured, Hood said.

The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

The captain reminded everyone to maintain a working smoke alarm in each bedroom and in at least one common area in every level of a home. "Plan and practice escape routes with your family, and once you're out, do not attempt to reenter," he added.

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