For Immediate Release

Contact: Michael Parks, Director of Communications
            540.432.7701
            Michael.Parks@harrisonburgva.gov

Officials: Reservoir Street fire started in kitchen

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Crews with the Harrisonburg Fire Department were quickly able to get a fire under control Thursday at a local apartment complex.

HFD Units were dispatched at 12:20 p.m. on May 2 for a structure fire in the 1300 block of Reservoir Street. Upon arrival, units found heavy smoke and fire coming from the apartment complex. Crews quickly worked to bring the incident under control and stop the spread to neighboring apartments, while the Harrisonburg Police Department worked to evacuate all residents safely.

The fire was marked as under control by 1:30 p.m. Units remained on the scene to complete operations, and HPD worked with the James Madison University Police Department to mitigate traffic congestion in the area.

After investigation, the cause of the fire has been determined as a kitchen fire. Two apartment units were damaged, and all residents are currently being assisted with finding alternative housing with the help of the American Red Cross. No injuries were reported during the fire.

(Above) Crews walk through an apartment unit damaged in Thursday's fire. Nobody was hurt in the incident.

"Residents should always have working smoke alarms and a fire escape plan," HFD Chief Ian Bennett said. "The Harrisonburg Fire Department staff is available to assist residents with any questions they have about either topic."

Check out the Harrisonburg Fire Department at www.harrisonburgva.gov/fire, Facebook, Twitter (@HFDVA) and Instagram (@harrisonburgfd) for more information.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.