



FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Press Release

On Saturday, October 7, 2017 the Seaside Fire Department conducted their annual Open House in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week. This year's theme is "Two Ways Out". Everyone should have a plan for two ways out of a building during an emergency or fire.

Fire personnel along with representatives from PG&E, Red Cross, Presidio of Monterey Fire Department and the Seaside Police Officer's Association provided food, fun and safety education to members of the community.

One demonstration this year involved a live fire involving two structures used to demonstrate the effects of a fire in a sprinklered versus non-sprinklered building. See video attached.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B8v_txDcAxx-ZjJXRTIxUWFSMFk/view

Fires can grow from a small incipient fire to a fully involved structure fire very rapidly in a single-family home. The video demonstrates how smoke detectors can notify someone inside a building within seconds of a fire developing. In a building with an installed fire sprinkler system, as the fire grows and builds up heat, the sprinkler system will activate and begin reducing the temperature; in most cases extinguish the fire, thus making it possible for occupants inside to escape the building safely.

The fires were lit simultaneously to demonstrate how quickly a fire will grow, involving the contents within the room. Smoke from the furniture burning is extremely dangerous and occupants are reminded to always crawl low to exit the building if they encounter smoke inside a building.

The pictures below show the structures after the fire was extinguished. The structure with sprinklers (left) indicates where the fire started in the corner, allowing heat and smoke to rise before activating both the smoke detector and fire sprinkler. The building and contents sustained less heat damage giving occupants a greater chance for escape and survival. The non-sprinklered building (right) sustained heavy heat and smoke damage and shows that without sprinklers to stop the spread of the fire, occupants will have an even lesser chance of survival.

