

# Fire Safety Tip for Multi-Family Housing

## Issue: Safe Exiting - Are you set up for success?

### Fire Prevention Partners of Clark County

#### City of Vancouver Fire Marshal's Office

7110 NE 63rd St.  
Vancouver, WA 98661  
(360)487-7212  
[www.vanfire.org](http://www.vanfire.org)

#### Clark County Fire Marshal's Office

505 NW 179th St.  
Ridgefield, WA 98642  
(360)397-2186  
[firemar@clark.wa.gov](mailto:firemar@clark.wa.gov)  
[www.co.clark.wa.us/commdev/firemarshal/indexN.html](http://www.co.clark.wa.us/commdev/firemarshal/indexN.html)

#### Clark County Fire District 6

8800 NE Hazel Dell Av.  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
(360)576-1195  
[www.ccf6.org](http://www.ccf6.org)

#### Clark County Fire & Rescue

911 N 65th Avenue  
Ridgefield, WA 98642  
(360)887-4609  
[www.clarkfr.org](http://www.clarkfr.org)

#### Camas Fire Prevention Offices

616 N.E. 4th Avenue, Suite 3  
Camas, WA 98607  
(360)834-6191  
[www.ci.camas.wa.us/fire/](http://www.ci.camas.wa.us/fire/)

#### Washougal Fire Department

1400 A street  
Washougal, WA 98671  
(360)835-2211  
[www.washougal.biz/cow/fire/](http://www.washougal.biz/cow/fire/)



It's 2:00 a.m., you wake up to the sound of alarm bells ringing outside your apartment unit. You faintly smell smoke and hear panic from your neighbors as they scurry loudly in their apartment. As you wake your children you notice the noxious smell of dense smoke entering your apartment, and you now see flames outside on the back balcony. Your chance to get out safely is quickly disappearing.

With your youngest child in your arms and the oldest holding your hand, you make your way out the front door to safety. Your new challenge? Dodging all of the stuff being stored by you and neighbors outside on the walkway!

In the event of a fire at your complex will you be able to reach safety quickly? Will firefighters be able to access your unit safely and without barriers to trip them up?

Chapter 10 in the Fire Code requires exit ways to be clear and unobstructed at all times. Storage, possessions, decorations, and other objects must not reduce the clear width of exit routes.

**To help ensure the safety of your family and your neighbors, remove items blocking your escape.** Also, create a Home Fire Escape Plan that includes:

- Working smoke alarm(s)
- Two ways out of every room
- Escape ladder if on second story (If you do not have one - stay at the window and yell for help)
- Designated meeting place for your family
- Calling 9-1-1 from a neighbor's home

