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Kent House Fire

Kent, Wash. - January 6, 2015- A Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority investigator has determined that a house fire in the 9800 block of S. 242 Place was caused by an electrical malfunction in a bathroom ceiling fan.

The fire was reported by the resident and a neighbor at 4:24 this afternoon after smoke and flames were seen on the second floor of the two-story house. All three people in the home were able to get out safely.

When firefighters arrived, they found the entire second story of the house filled with smoke. Firefighters contained the fire to the bathroom where it started, though the smoke and heat caused damage throughout the upper story.

The fire is considered accidental.

Bathroom fans are a common cause of house fires. Vacuuming the fan out periodically to remove accumulated dust will help reduce the strain on the motor. Also, if the fan begins to make noises such as squeaks or unusual humming, shut off the fan and either replace it or have it inspected by a professional.

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