



FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Christian M. Bell, Chief

Emergency Calls	911
Administration	715/839-5012
Inspections/Investigation	715/839-4825
After Hours	715/839-5013
E-mail	ecfire@eauclairewi.gov
City Website	www.eauclairewi.gov

NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 8, 2017
TO: All News Media
FROM: Prevention / Inspections Division
SUBJECT: Dehumidifier Recall

Throughout the summer, many in our region choose to use a dehumidifier in the home. It is common to find these in basements and sometimes directly plumbed to a drain using a pipe or hose. Over the last few years, dehumidifiers have been the source of many structure fires throughout the nation. This fire hazard resulted in a massive recall of millions of dehumidifier appliances with varying brand names and models. Even though this recall has been ongoing for years, these units still are causing structure fires in Eau Claire. Eau Claire Fire and Rescue has responded to two structure fires in the last three months attributed to recalled dehumidifiers.

If you use a dehumidifier, it is imperative that you check the make and model to ensure your appliance is not on the recall list. You can contact the manufacturer of your dehumidifier or go to www.cpsc.gov to identify if your unit is recalled. If you have a recalled dehumidifier, stop using it immediately due to the risk of fire. Upon contacting the manufacturer, they may assist you with repair or replacement of your recalled unit.

Dehumidifier safety tips:

- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for use and maintenance.
- Ensure you have adequate clearance from combustibles around the appliance for proper air movement and cooling.
- Keep the filter clean to allow good air flow.
- Select a humidity setting that allows your dehumidifier to cycle off at times, so it does not run continuously and overheat.
- Plug the appliance directly into an outlet; do not use extension cords or power strips.

If you have any questions about fire safety, please call the department's Fire Prevention Division at 839-4825.