

Accidental fire destroys local restaurant

Posted by [Alan Van Wormer](#) On 04/20/2018

BENEDICT, Md. - A local restaurant is gone after a massive fire, Thursday afternoon, April 19. At 4:30 p.m., crews from the Benedict VFD responded to the River's Edge Restaurant, 7320 Benedict Avenue for the report of a structure fire. Upon arrival crews discovered the restaurant with flames throughout the building. Sixty firefighters responding from neighboring counties\ arrived to provide assistance but due to a partial building collapse, units could only battle the fire from the outside. After 45 minutes of attacking the blaze, the scene was under control. The fire completely destroyed the building causing an estimated one million dollars worth of damage.

Investigation revealed the fire was the result of a smoking materials station igniting on the exterior of the building. The fire spread to nearby combustible materials before extending to the building. Employees of the establishment smelled smoke and discovered the fire outside the kitchen. Attempts to extinguish the fire by the employees were unsuccessful prior to the fire department arrival. All restaurant employees and approximately five customers were able to escape the building without injury.

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