

TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

15455 Gleneagle Drive, Suite 230

Colorado Springs, CO 80921

Bus: (719) 484-0911 Fax (719) 481-3456



Christopher Truty, Fire Chief

Lockridge Fire Follow Up

June 22, 2017

We have received many questions about the Structure Fire on Lockridge Drive last week and have been made aware there are many other incorrect stories floating around the community about the fire. There is new information below about the incident and as always please call with questions.

“At 11:43:40 PM on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, the Tri-Lakes Monument FPD responded to a report of an outside fire in the area of Lockridge Dr and Roaming Dr in the Wissler Ranch subdivision off of County Line Rd east of Hwy 83. Originally dispatched as a small outside fire, firefighters arrived on scene of 20120 Lockridge Dr at 11:57 PM to find a 3-car attached garage completely engulfed in flames with fire already extending into the living spaces. Firefighters quickly attacked the fire but were limited in their progress due to available water. The fire was declared under control at 1:43 AM.

Damage to the home was extensive and not safe for occupancy. Residents had evacuated prior to the fire department’s arrival, however one family dog perished. Damage to the home is estimated at \$400,000. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Tri-Lakes Monument firefighters were assisted at the scene by the Wescott, Black Forest, Larkspur, Falcon, and Peyton Fire Districts, along with Air Force Academy Fire Department and Colorado Springs Fire Department providing district coverage. The Red Cross was available at the scene to assist the residents.”

- Fact #1: The original call for an outside fire dispatched four of our units and one unit from neighboring Wescott Fire District to the area of Roaming Drive and Lockridge Drive for a small outside fire at 11:43 pm. There were several callers reporting some form of fire in the trees.
- Fact #2: As our first unit arrived in the neighborhood expecting to find an outside fire of some type they realized there was a large amount of smoke and requested additional units including engines and water tenders due to the area not having hydrants and the need for hauled water operations.
- Fact #3: Our first engine arrived 11:57:27 (14:47 from dispatch) and stated that it was a well involved structural fire and requested a second alarm structural assignment be dispatched.
- Fact #4: The entire fire was contained to the structure and vehicles adjacent to the structure, and due to the lack of wind coupled with high fuel moisture in the trees surrounding the home the fire did not spread and did not pose a danger to the neighbors. Our incident commander assigned a brush truck to patrol for spot fires and was prepared to request notification be sent out to those at risk if conditions warranted.
 - 4a: The statement “available water” includes not only the proximity of water, but also the means to access and transport the water to the scene.

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- Fact #5: There are 3 small cisterns located within the Wissler Ranch Subdivision that require a dedicated pumper truck to suck the water out of the cistern and then pump it into our water tenders to be hauled to the fire. Due to the initial dispatch of an outside fire, we did not have sufficient pumper trucks until 40 minutes into the incident that could have been used at a cistern. The first water tenders were directed to Kilmer Elementary to refill with water from the pressurized hydrant located at the school because they did not need a pumper truck to refill off the hydrant.
- Fact #6: The cause of the fire has been ruled accidental meaning that it simply was accident! No one intentionally set the fire and there are no other threats or concerns that someone is setting fires in the neighborhood.

These facts are meant to educate the community as to the events that transpired on the night of June 13th and early in the morning of June 14th.

Any questions, please contact Battalion Chief Jamey Bumgarner at 719-484-0911.