



News Release

Date: 6/9/13
Release: Immediate
Contact: Public Information Officer, 503-441-9324 (pager)

Tooze Road Fire

Firefighters from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue were dispatched to reports of a fire at 12020 SW Tooze Road at 12:24 PM today. On arrival, they found fire on one exterior side of the home climbing the wall and extending into the attic space. The external fire was quickly controlled and firefighters immediately searched the home to ensure no one was trapped inside. While all residents had successfully evacuated, firefighters located and rescued the family dog. Working from inside the home and from the roof, crews extinguished fire in the attic at 12:48 PM.

The fire started accidentally when a resident touched off a pine tree next to the house when using a propane torch to kill weeds. Recognizing that it posed a hazard, he reported that he wet the tree down before working around it. The tree ignited anyway and quickly spread flames up the side of the house. "This fire is an unfortunate reminder of the need for serious caution and restraint when operating an open flame anywhere near a dwelling, particularly when the conditions are dry," stated TVF&R spokesman Walt Peck.

The fire caused significant damage to the roof structure, and water and smoke damage occurred in the living areas of the home. There is no estimate of financial damage at this time.



#