

Kent East hill Fire Displaces Family of Five

Kent, Wash. -July 2, 2015- A resident in the 13100 block of 246 Place Southeast on Kent's East hill called 911 at 04:37 this morning reporting their neighbor's house was on fire. The caller told dispatchers it appeared that everyone was out of the house and one resident was trying to extinguish the fire with a garden hose. Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority emergency units were dispatched and while in route reported that a "thermal column" was visible from a couple blocks away.

Upon arrival the first fire engine reported thick, dark smoke and flames from the back of the building. The heat of the fire made entry into the residence extremely dangerous and the crew made a "defensive attack" from the exterior with a deck gun mounted on the fire engine. Once the flames were knocked down the crews were able to enter the residence with hose lines to extinguish the fire. The fire was declared extinguished within 30 minutes of the arrival of the first Kent fire engine.

The cause of the early morning blaze is under investigation by the Kent Fire Investigator. Fireworks were ruled out as a possible cause. Damage estimates were not available at the time.

The residents are receiving housing and other assistance from the American Red Cross.

A family pet dog was rescued unharmed from the house by firefighters and was reunited with the family. The resident that attempted to extinguish the fire with a garden hose was injured. He was treated at the scene by King County Medics and Kent firefighters but refused transport to a hospital. No other injuries to firefighters or residents were reported.

The Kent Fire Department Regional Fire Authority would like to remind everybody that if you have a fire in your house, **TO GET OUT FAST, CALL 911 AND NEVER RE-ENTER THE BURNING STRUCTURE.**

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