



# Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority

## Report for Corsham Area Board – May 2011

### Fires

WFRS attended 9 accidental fires within the Board's area during March and April 2011. These incidents have involved 3 cars, a motorcycle, a pan left on a cooker, a tree, a garden bonfire and a railway embankment. The remaining incident involved a wooden structure where reflected sun light caused scorching to its exterior.

We have seen a slight decrease in the number of deliberate fires that we have attended during the same period, from 5 to 4. These have involved baled elephant grass, straw in a livestock barn, an aerosol and a large bonfire involving waste material. WFRS continues to work with Wiltshire Police and other agencies to identify persons who are responsible for deliberate fire setting.

### Injuries

There were no fire related injuries or deaths reported during this period.

### RTC'S

WFRS were called to attend 1 Road Traffic Collision within the Board's area during March and April 2011. This incident occurred just off the A4 at Box Hill.

### Community Safety

We are still continuing to attend several cooking and kitchen related fires across the County. We would urge people not to leave cooking unattended and to make sure they have switched off all cooking appliances after use.

We are also attending bonfire related incidents, please see some further information below on bonfire safety:

Fire can spread easily, so where and how you build your bonfire is important. If you have a bonfire, follow

these simple guidelines:

- warn your neighbours beforehand - they are much less likely to complain
- light the bonfire at a time least likely to affect your neighbours - eg not on a warm day when people will be in their garden
- only burn dry material not damp, which causes more smoke
- build the bonfire away from sheds, fences and trees
- check there are no cables - like telephone wires - above the bonfire
- don't use petrol or paraffin to get the fire going – it may get out of control quickly

Once the bonfire is lit, make sure you:

- keep a bucket of water or a garden hose nearby - in case of emergencies
- don't leave the bonfire unattended
- keep children and pets away from the bonfire
- don't throw any fireworks into the fire
- don't burn aerosols, tyres, canisters or anything containing foam or paint - many produce toxic fumes and some containers may explode, causing injury

Once the bonfire has died down, spray the embers with water to stop it reigniting.  
For a full range of home fire safety advice, visit [www.wiltshire.gov.uk](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk)