



Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Wiltshire and Swindon Fire Authority

Report for Chippenham Area Board

Fires

The number of accidental fires attended by WFRS within the Board's area during March and April 2010 was 22, an increase from 16 during the first 2 months of the year. These involved a range of vehicles including cars and vans, 3 kitchen fires, a bathroom caused by a candle, a meter box, industrial paint spraying machine, light fitting in an industrial building and grass fires. WFRS also attended 1 chimney fire.

Unfortunately we saw an increase in the number of deliberate fires that we attended during the same period, there being 7 incidents of this type. These involved bedroom curtains in the first floor of a house, a van, 2 sofas, 2 wheelie bins and a fire work being placed in a pillar box in Audley Road. WFRS and Wiltshire Police worked together with the media and the local community and schools to highlight the dangers of placing fireworks through letterboxes and pillar boxes and these incidents thankfully stopped before anyone was injured or killed. We continue to work with other agencies to identify persons who are responsible for deliberate fire setting.

Injuries

There were 2 fire related injuries during March and April 2010. 2 female casualties were taken to hospital suffering from smoke inhalation following a house fire.

RTCs

WFRS attended 1 road traffic collision within the Boards area during March and April 2010. This incident occurred on the M4.

Community Safety

With warmer and sunnier weather on the horizon we would like to remind people that carelessness outdoors while barbecuing or camping can have fatal results or cause serious injury. Fires can destroy large areas of countryside, people's property and delicate eco-systems.

With reference to an incident that we have recently attended it would seem opportune to remind individuals to consider kitchen safety, in particular to not leave their cooking unattended, and to keep all cooking appliances and utensils clean and free from a build up of grease.

If you are using candles please make sure that they are fully extinguished after use, and that they are not placed in an area where they could easily be knocked over.

For further information on how to prevent these types of incidents occurring please visit www.direct.gov.uk/firekills.