



PRESS RELEASE

Darien-Woodridge Fire District

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For Immediate Release

House Fire

On July 11, 2009, at approximately 4:43 AM, multiple reports were received of a house on fire at 8 S 272 Cass, near 73rd and Cass, in unincorporated DuPage County. First fire units arrived 5 minutes later and found a single family home with smoke and flames coming from the basement.

Units stretched hose lines into the basement and had the fire under control within 30 minutes. At the same time other units were making a search to make sure that all people were out of the house. They also rescued some of the family pets.

Five occupants were home at the time of the fire. The fire was first noticed when another family member returned home. As he went into the house he noticed a slight haze on the first floor. The family was then alerted, and they were safely able to escape, calling 9-1-1 from a cell phone.

No firefighters or civilians were injured, however two pets died from the smoke.

Damage was extensive and the home will be uninhabitable for some time. They residents were put up in temporary housing until the insurance company is able to provide for something more permanent.

Investigators on the scene were able to determine the fire started in the basement near a sofa, but the exact cause is not yet determined.

The Darien-Woodridge Fire District would like to remind everyone of the need for having working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be installed on each level of the home, and outside every sleeping area, as a minimum. Any batteries should be changed twice a year – change your clock, change your batteries. Also as with any electric product they have a useful life. Smoke alarms should be replaced when they are around 8 years old.

Due to the quickness that fire spreads, it is imperative that occupants get out and stay out from any building that is suspected to be on fire.

Assisting Darien-Woodridge at the scene were Downers Grove, Westmont, Pleasantview, Tri-State, and Lisle-Woodridge Fire Departments.

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