



Town of Falmouth
Fire-EMS Department
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NEWS RELEASE - 2011-05

For Immediate Release: August 2, 2011
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Falmouth Fire-EMS Responds to Multiple Lightning Strikes During Storm

On Tuesday August 2, 2011 Falmouth Fire-EMS responded to 4 separate reports of lightning strikes during the powerful thunderstorm that came through the area. The first call came in at 1:36 p.m. for an alarm at the Foreside Community Church at 340 Foreside Road. A neighbor reported hearing a large clap of thunder and hearing a large explosion at the same time. A few minutes later the fire alarm was sounding. The building was checked for any possible fire and the alarm was reset.

Minutes later, at a call to Woodlands Drive, the department found another alarm going off immediately after the homeowner heard a large boom and saw a bright lightning flash. There was no damage to the residence.

On Woods Road, two Town of Falmouth employees witnessed a large flash and sparks coming from an area around several wall outlets at the Public Works building. The Fire-EMS checked the inside of the building as well as the roof but did not find any damage.

The fourth call was on Cedarwood Drive, where the occupants reported hearing a large boom and experiencing a power loss at the residence. An outlet in the garage was reported to be smoking as well. The Fire-EMS Department responded and upon investigation found a tree that had been struck by lightning in the woods behind the house. A large hole was found next to the tree. In the hole was a burned piece of wire from an invisible dog fence that appeared to have carried the electrical current back to the garage where it shorted out the power supply and the outlet. On the front lawn was another hole where a portion of the invisible fence was disconnected and sticking up out of the ground as well. The Fire-EMS department checked the residence and did not find any fire or other hazards.

There were no injuries.

End of release.

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