

**PRESS CONFERENCE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Arcata Fire District has a busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July**

Arcata Fire District Firefighters had a busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July responding to three structure fires, two vegetation fires and numerous requests for medical aid. Surprisingly not all attributed to fireworks use. However, one structure fire was traced to improperly disposed fireworks five hours earlier, one was contributed to a heat lamp in a chicken coop and the last was a faulty water heater. The vegetation fires are currently under investigation.

All fires were contained quickly with moderate damage thanks to a fast response from Arcata Fire District and our neighboring agencies. Throughout the day we received or provided assistance to/from our neighbors at Humboldt Bay Fire, Samoa Peninsula Fire, Blue lake Fire, Calfire and Fieldbrook Fire.

Arcata Fire District would like to remind everyone to be extremely vigilant in extinguishing fireworks as well as discarded barbecue ashes or other burning materials. Although they may seem to be out, never place ashes in a plastic waste container or next to a building. Fires can ignite hours or days later.

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