

Dry Weather Brings Several Atchison County Fires

The dry weather over the past few weeks sparked several fires in rural Atchison County over the past three days, causing minor damage, and almost destroying a home.

According to Atchison County Undersheriff Larry Myer, the first fire occurred at the residence of Jerome Bratton on Rawlins road Saturday afternoon at 2:08.

He says Bratton was burning brush when the fire got out of control.

Mount Pleasant and Shannon township fire squads were able to put out the fire, however, it re-kindled 8:42 Sunday evening and destroyed several outbuildings on the property before the two township squads, along with Lancaster rural fire and Atchison fire squads were able to put out the blaze.

Crews also responded to a skid loader fire at 4412 238th road 1:30 Sunday afternoon.

The fire destroyed the loader belonging to Joe Taliferro.

Later that afternoon at 2:34, Lancaster fire crews responded to a fire that began at the Mark Navinskey property at 9583 286th.

Myer says ashes from a wood stove were being dumped, which caused the grass to set on fire.

The fire spread several acres and into the yard of Tony Jackson at 9659 286th road.

The Lancaster firefighters, assisted by the Effingham fire squad, were able to stop the fire, just before it hit the Jackson house.

Valley Falls fire crews responded to a fire Monday afternoon at 1:15 at the residence of 1435 Cheyenne.

Myer says the fire started as an individual was taking a chop saw to scrap metal, causing a spark to set grass ablaze, eventually destroying six vacant mobile homes that were in preparation to be scrapped.

Crews from Effingham, Lancaster, and Nortonville assisted in the mobile home fires.

A reminder, Atchison County Commissioners Monday issued a burn ban until further notice.