



Roanoke County Fire & Rescue Department News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information please contact:
Jennifer Conley Sexton, Volunteer & Marketing Coordinator
(540)777-8706, 777-8701, 400-5825
JSexton@RoanokeCountyVA.gov

Discarded smoking material causes house fire

October 1, 2009 (ROANOKE COUNTY) –The Fire Marshal’s office has determined that improperly discarded smoking material caused the blaze that destroyed a home yesterday afternoon in west Roanoke County. Investigators have concluded that the fire began as a smoldering fire in the living room, gained intensity and spread quickly to the rest of the home.

Roanoke County Fire & Rescue was dispatched to Skyview Road around 2:30 p.m. for a report of unknown smoke in the area. Firefighters searched along the road for approximately 20 minutes before finding a wood A-frame house located behind another home in a wooded area with flames coming through the roof and windows. Since the house was fully engulfed in flames, it was determined to be too dangerous for crews to battle the fire from inside. Firefighters laid a hose line up the more than 300’ driveway and doused the flames from outside the structure. It took volunteer and career firefighters from the Fort Lewis station about an hour to get the blaze under control. Salem assisted with fire suppression efforts.

The man who lived in the home was not home at the time of the fire and reportedly left the home earlier in the afternoon.

The home is considered a total loss. Damage estimates for the home and its contents are valued at \$150,000. The man is staying with family and the Red Cross has been contacted to assist if needed.

Roanoke County Fire and Rescue Department is committed to providing quality fire and emergency medical services to the citizens and visitors of Roanoke County, Virginia.

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