

MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS RESPOND TO LARGE FIRE AT AN ORANGE COUNTY LUMBER MILL

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On Tuesday, April 20th, at approximately 15:53 hours the Orange County E911 center received a call for a fire located at 10386 Larmond Road. First to arrive at 16:06 hours were Tanker 23, Medic 23 and the County Fire & EMS duty officer. Crews found a well involved saw mill that had quickly extended beyond the building into large log piles and impinged on logging equipment adjacent to the main structure. Due to weather conditions that brought 30+ mile an hour winds, crews made aggressive initial efforts to protect exposures and spot fires throughout the lumber yard and adjacent properties.

Chief 23-2 and Orange County Fire & EMS Duty Officer 1 established a joint command and worked to establish perimeter attack lines that ultimately protected and saved multiple pieces of logging equipment from damage. Multiple agencies to include the Gordonsville Volunteer Fire Company, Barboursville Volunteer Fire Company, Mine Run Volunteer Fire Company, Rapidan Volunteer Fire Company and Madison County Volunteer Fire Company assisted with providing apparatus and manpower to the scene. Lake of the Woods Fire Department provided a central station fill crew out of the OVFC firehouse during the height of the incident. Over 50 volunteer and career personnel remained on the scene for nearly 7 hours extinguishing the fire. No injuries were reported on scene.

The cause of the fire was determined to be accidental.

The Orange Volunteer Fire Company has served the Town of Orange and greater Orange County community for over 100 years. We would like to remind residents throughout Orange County that the Virginia Department of Forestry statewide burn law remains in effect until April 30th. Burning before 4 PM is prohibited due to weather conditions that favor rapid fire spread. When burning after 4 PM, please contact the E911 Center non-emergency line at (540) 672 – 1234 to report the controlled burn.