

Grand Chute Fire Department

Timothy A. Bantes, Fire Chief



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Chief Timothy Bantes
(920) 422-1048

GRAND CHUTE HOUSE FIRE UNDER CONTROL

Fire Goes to Third Alarm; Gas Leak Contained

GRAND CHUTE – On Saturday August 1st at 2:40 PM the Grand Chute Fire Department was dispatched to 5501 West Natures Lane for a report of a structure fire. Outagamie County 911 Dispatchers provided additional information stating that smoke and flames were visible from the single-family dwelling and attached garage. Appleton and Town of Menasha Fire Units also responded under automatic aid agreements in place.

Crews reported heavy smoke and fire conditions upon arrival, and the incident was quickly upgraded to a working still, then a box alarm shortly thereafter. Following aggressive interior search efforts it was determined that no life hazard existed, and firefighters were subsequently withdrawn from the building to initiate defensive fire suppression operations as conditions continued to deteriorate. After ultimately being upgraded to a third alarm, bringing resources from several surrounding fire departments to the scene, the fire was declared under control at approximately 5:18 PM.

Fire personnel remained on scene for several hours working in conjunction with We Energies to mitigate a natural gas leak which contributed to the rapid fire growth and development. With the exception of one firefighter on scene being evaluated for heat exhaustion, no other responder or civilian injuries were reported. The residence was heavily damaged and cannot be occupied. The Grand Chute Fire Department is investigating the cause of the fire, which has not been determined.

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