



NEWS



News Headlines 02/25/2022

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By Rene Ray De La Cruz, VICTORVILLE DAILY PRESS

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Nearly two dozen dogs died and a large number survived during a fire that swept through one home in Yucca Valley, **San Bernardino County Fire** officials said. Photos Courtesy Of The **San Bernardino County Fire** Department.

Twenty dogs died, and many survived when fire swept through one single-story home located north of Joshua Tree National Park, authorities said.

At 8:48 a.m. on Wednesday, fire crews were dispatched to a reported house fire in the 3000 block of Goleta Avenue in Yucca Valley, **San Bernardino County Fire** officials said. Upon arrival, crews found the home well involved. Firefighters initiated an attack to suppress the blaze and keep it from spreading to an adjacent motorhome, outbuilding, and nearby vegetation.

High winds and many dogs complicated the efforts of firefighters, who ultimately knocked the fire back and went inside the structure to complete a search for potential victims. After the fire was knocked down in about 30 minutes, crews discovered 20 dead dogs inside the home. An additional 15 to 20 dogs were also at the residence or in the area.

Animal control was immediately requested to assist, fire officials said. The home and a motorhome sustained heavy damage. A fire investigator was requested to complete a cause/origin investigation. After the investigation, it was determined the fire was accidental and caused by a propane heater that had tipped over, county fire said. The Red Cross was requested to assist the two displaced occupants.

The county fire responded with four engines, a battalion chief, a medic ambulance, and a fire investigator. Animal control, code enforcement, and the SBC Sheriff's Department also assisted with the incident. BLM Fire responded with a patrol due to the threat to adjacent vegetation in their direct protection area.

Heating equipment fires:

About 54% of home heating fire deaths were caused by having heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding. Heating equipment is a leading cause of fires in U.S. homes. Each year from 2014 to 2018, local fire departments responded to an estimated 48,530 fires involving heating equipment. These fires resulted in annual losses of 500 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries, and \$1.1 billion in direct property damage.

<https://www.vvdailypress.com/story/news/2022/02/24/20-dogs-die-house-fire-heating-equipment-joshua-tree-home/6920706001/>