

Open Area Fire Caused By Fireworks

Arapahoe County, CO – Shortly after twelve-noon on July 4, 2008 Cunningham Fire Rescue responded on an open area fire behind houses in the 4700 block of South Flanders Street in Arapahoe County. The fire was also reported with an address behind the 19000 block of E. Chenango Drive.

The fire involved brush and ground cover in an open area that is surrounded by homes on both sides and Quincy Reservoir on the West side. Cunningham Fire received assistance from the Parker-South Metro Fire Authority and the Aurora Fire Department and there were approximately 26 firefighters on-scene. The fire was quickly brought under control despite the fact that terrain and limited access to the area posed to be a bit of a challenge for fire suppression crews and apparatus getting into the area to suppress the fire.

The fire was extinguished in approximately thirty minutes and did not threaten or involve any structures in the area. The size of the fire was less than 1 acre. Fireworks were found in the area where the fire started and are believed to be the cause of the fire. Witnesses in the area were unable to identify possible persons of interest that were using the fireworks.

Cunningham Fire would like to remind everyone that conditions are very dry and as a result the potential for a brush or ground cover fire to quickly spread and threaten structures is very high. Use of all fireworks in the city limits of Aurora, Centennial and Denver is illegal; and fires caused by use of firework can result in arson charges for those using the fireworks regardless if they are legal or not. Fire and law enforcement agencies encourage everyone to leave fireworks alone and see a professional display.