



CITY OF MUSCATINE
215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 • FAX (563) 264-0750

PRESS RELEASE

MUSCATINE FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Public Safety Building, 312 E. 5th Street, Muscatine, Iowa 52761
563.263.9233**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JUNE 18, 2019

FIVE DOGS RESCUED FROM HOUSE FIRE EARLY TUESDAY

Firefighters quickly extinguish late night kitchen fire in Muscatine

MUSCATINE, Iowa – Five dogs are alive today after being rescued from a structure fire Monday night in Muscatine.

The Muscatine Joint Communications Center (MUSCOM) received a 911 call at 12:16 a.m. Tuesday of a kitchen on fire at 1718 Miles Avenue, Muscatine. Initial reports indicated that the residents were out but four dogs were still inside with individuals entering the structure in an attempt to save the animals.

Fire crews could see fire in the kitchen of the single family residence and initiated a fire attack, and gained control within 15 minutes. Damaged was contained to the kitchen but there was smoke damage throughout the rest of the structure.

One of the dogs was revived by Muscatine Fire Department staff using modified CPR and four others were brought out and given oxygen using pet masks that were donated to the department by Dr. Dan Drahos of Riverside Animal Hospital. Two of the dogs were taken to a veterinarian for treatment while three others recovered on scene and were released back to the owners. The two taken to the veterinarian were examined and released back to the owners today.

“While the efforts of the individuals to rescue the animals is appreciated, we urge individuals not to enter a burning structure to rescue pets,” Michael Hartman, Muscatine Fire Marshal and Assistant Fire Chief, said. “Dogs and cats have a way of finding their way out of a burning structure on their own, and they are low to the ground which helps them to avoid the smoke. Entering a burning structure puts the individual at risk of becoming a victim themselves.”

The pet masks are now on board each Muscatine Fire Department ambulance and have been used on a number of occasions since the first ones were received a few years ago.

The on scene investigation has been completed, and, although a cause has not been determined, it does not appear intentional at this time. The fire and smoke loss estimate is approximately \$30,000 to the structure and contents.

There were no civilian or responder injuries. The Red Cross was called to assist the family, who will be temporarily displaced.

The Muscatine Fire Department was assisted by the Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department and the Muscatine Police Department. Approximately 20 fire fighters responded to the fire, including off duty personnel.

About the Muscatine Fire Department:

The Muscatine Fire Department provides fire and emergency medical services, rescues (high angle, rope, water, etc.), building inspections, and public education for the City of Muscatine, and the surrounding unincorporated areas of Muscatine County with a combined population of 43,000 across 145 square miles while also providing HAZMAT for Muscatine, Louisa, Washington, Keokuk, and Henry counties. MFD firefighters and paramedics responded to 5,027 calls in 2018. The Muscatine Fire Department began as a volunteer fire company on January 7, 1875 and was established as a full-time department in January 1916. The Muscatine Fire Department ambulance service received the 2012 Career Ambulance service of the Year Award from Iowa Emergency Medical Services.



CITY OF MUSCATINE
215 SYCAMORE STREET
MUSCATINE, IA 52761
PH. (563) 264-1550 • FAX (563) 264-0750

Prepared by:

Mike Hartman, Fire Marshal

mhartman@muscatineiowa.gov

563-263-9233

Kevin Jenison, Communication Manager
E-Mail: kjenison@muscatineiowa.gov
Phone: (563) 264-1550 • Fax: (563) 264-0750