



# **MERRIMACK FIRE DEPARTMENT**

432 Daniel Webster Highway  
Merrimack New Hampshire 03054  
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**Interim Fire Chief**  
Matthew J. Duke

**Fire Marshal**  
John E. Manuele

## **Office of the Fire Marshal**

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**For further information contact:**

**Fire Marshal John Manuele**

**603-424-3690**

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#### **Merrimack Fire Rescue responds to a brush fire at 31 Amherst Road.**

On Thursday May 14, 2020 at 4:39 PM Merrimack Fire Rescue was dispatched to 31 Amherst Road for the report of a large brush fire. Engine 1 under the command of Captain Newman, Engine 2 commanded by Lieutenant Bickford, Forestry 1, Fire Chief Duke and Fire Marshal Manuele responded.

Upon arrival at 4:45 PM, arriving personnel found a brush fire in the rear of a home at 31 Amherst Road; the fire was burning in a large area of brush and trees between Amherst Road and Forsythia Lane. Crews began attacking the fire from the Amherst Road side and Chief Duke called for Forestry 3 and mutual aid from Amherst and Nashua. The Merrimack Police Department closed down Amherst Road as the nearest hydrant was on the opposite side of the street and large diameter hose was blocking the entire width of the road. Merrimack Forestry 3 arrived and began attacking the Forsythia Lane side of the fire, and a Nashua engine and Amherst Forestry arrived and added their manpower to the Merrimack crews. An Amherst engine arrived at Merrimack Station 1 to cover the town while all Merrimack personnel fought the fire.

The fire was declared under control at 5:30 PM and crews overhauled the area until 6:45 and began cleaning up. All crews cleared the scene at 7:10 PM. An area of approximately 1.5 acres was burned. There were no injuries and damage was mostly brush with some personal items including a small utility trailer.

The cause of the fire was determined to be due to an unattended illegal brush pile fire that spread to the woods. The property owner was counseled on the proper procedures to obtain a permit and burn safely.

. Merrimack Fire Rescue wants to remind everyone that all outside fires need to have a burn permit and all burning regulations need to be followed. This is the fifth brush fire that we have responded to in the last 2 weeks and all have been due to careless acts by homeowners.

For further information contact Merrimack Fire Rescue, Office of the Fire Marshal.



