

April 26, 2016

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Live Fire Training

McKinelyville, CA- (April 26, 2016)- On Saturday, April 30, 2016, Arcata Fire District will be conducting a joint training with Blue Lake Fire District, Fieldbrook Fire District, and Humboldt Bay Fire on a structure at 1090 Murray Road. From approximately 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM firefighters will conduct a live fire training burn where firefighters will be extinguishing room size fires inside the structure. The objective of the live fire training is as follows:

- Train new firefighters in basic fire control techniques while practicing communications teamwork
- Evaluate interoperability between mutual aid agencies
- Review basic fire behavior and teach science of firefighting
- Practice hose advancement and fire control techniques

"This is our second training burn in two weeks which is very unusual. Last week we trained over 50 firefighters and we will have another 50 or more at this training burn. This opportunity gives our local firefighters live fire experience which is different from reading about it in a textbook or watching videos online" said Assistant Chief, Sean Campbell.

"Many of the firefighters who trained last week experienced real fire conditions for their first time. It's much safer for them to get the experience under these controlled conditions," Campbell continues.

During the training exercise Arcata Fire District will have additional staffing for a reserve engine so our on duty crews will be available to continue to respond on calls. The site may continue to smoke for a few days after this event. Firefighters and the property owner will be monitoring the site regularly until ashes are cold. There is no need to call 911 if smoke is seen coming from the debris pile where the building was located. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Assistant Chief Sean Campbell at 825-2000.

