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NEWS

Fire rips through rural home

A family of three, including a two-year-old girl, have been left homeless following a house fire Saturday afternoon on Five Sideroad near Sixth Line.

The cause of the blaze is still under investigation by the Halton Hills Fire Department but damage has been estimated at approximately \$400,000, said Deputy Chief Bruce Morrison on Monday.

No one was injured in the blaze, which began at approximately 3:30 p.m. The family was at home at the time and noticed flames coming from the front of the residence, forcing them out of the home.

Wind and humid temperatures created difficult conditions for members of the HHFD, who were deployed in rotating shifts to help manage the effects of the heat, which soared above 40C with the humidity. Halton EMS paramedics stood by to attend to firefighters if needed.

There were a number of issues involved in this fire and one of them was the fear of the embers catching fire on the grass because there was a grassy area leading up to the two barns with horses in them, said Morrison.

We deployed a crew to specifically detect spot fires from the embers and we also had the horse owners and property owners doing their bit to keep the embers from catching fire.

The structure was fully involved within minutes and at one stage flames shot through the roof, forcing firefighters to take on a defensive position.



Crews from the Halton Hills Fire Department took turns battling a house fire on Five Sideroad near Trafalgar Rd. Saturday afternoon on one of the hottest days of the summer. There were no injuries.
Photo by Jon Borgstrom

Morrison added there was heavy water damage and the second floor collapsed, with the roof having burned off.

Halton Social Services and the Red Cross have come to the aid of the family on the main floor of the home to find temporary accommodation.

There were also two apartment units on the second floor of the balloon-frame-constructed farmhouse and those two residents had been on vacation.

HHFD tanker trucks transported water to the scene to help battle the fire and a crew stayed on scene through the night to watch for hot spots re-igniting.

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