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Stouffville turned into a ghost town when the power went out Sunday night, according to fire chief Rob McKenzie.

Whitchurch-Stouffville went dark around 10 p.m., and that is when the remote alarms started going off. Fire crews attended about 14 remote alarm calls, according to Mr. McKenzie.

"We have to check them all," he said.

There was some minor road flooding in the Main and Stouffer streets area, according to the chief, noting before the power went out, there was some rain.

Part of Main Street, just east of Stouffer Street was closed during the Monday morning rush hour, as Hydro workers cleared a number of downed trees from the road.

"There were no critical incidents, nothing major happened," Mr. McKenzie said of the power outage that lasted until about 5:30 a.m. Monday.

More than 58,000 homes from Keswick to Bradford and parts of Richmond Hill lost power Sunday night.

CONTINUED TUESDAY

Parts of Main Street Stouffville were left without power again Tuesday afternoon between 3 and 5:30 p.m.

The Sunday night outage created 36 calls for Central York Fire Services in the Newmarket, Aurora areas while police were called out 272 times between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m., mostly false alarm calls.

Central York Fire Chief Ian Laing said most incidents were power interruptions that set off home alarms and knocked out lights at intersections, while strong winds blew the siding off Newmarket's new water tower on Yonge Street.

He said he also noticed many motorists driving unsafely during the blackout.

"One of our platoon chiefs was inching into an intersection and someone just flew through," he said. "People just don't get the message that it's a four-way stop when there are no lights."

He added had the platoon chief not been "creeping" up to the lights, there could have been a serious crash as a result.

with files from Jeremy Grimaldi



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