



PRESS RELEASE

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*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***
MERRIMACK VILLAGE DISTRICT FIRE HYDRANTS

Merrimack, NH – June 18, 2021

Merrimack Village District (MVD) has been made aware there is misinformation regarding inoperable fire hydrants that the Merrimack Fire Department (MFD) utilized to extinguish the fire that occurred at 2 Shore Drive Ext yesterday, June 17th.

All 930 of MVD's hydrants are currently operable. MVD has a Hydrant Maintenance Program to ensure fire hydrants are operable and available for use by MFD at any time. Hydrants are flushed twice a year as well as after any use by the fire department. During the flushing process, MVD's technicians perform an inspection of the hydrant and its parts to ensure the hydrant is operable and readily accessible. Inspection includes a visual examination of the hydrant; including checking valves, checking (and if necessary cleaning/lubricating) caps, inspecting for leaks, checking the flow of water, and assessing if there are any required repairs to the hydrant or area surrounding it. Any hydrant that is determined to be out of service has a bag placed over to indicate that it is not in working order and the MFD is immediately notified by MVD.

The fire hydrants in the area of Shore Drive were inspected in August of 2020 and all were operable. MVD has contacted the MFD's Chief and confirmed that the fire truck had an issue with their intake screen being blocked by rocks which caused lower pressure than anticipated. MFD was able to clear their screens, re-connect and resume use of the hydrant.

- END -

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