

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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On 12/24/2020 at 1:07 pm, Tipp City Fire/EMS responded to a BR Mulch for processing equipment and mulch piles on fire. Upon arrival, our first responder located a heavy smoke and fire involving a tub grinder, tractor, front end loader and mulch piles.

Tipp City personnel requested mutual aid. Smoke could be seen from all over town. Tipp City Tanker 12 applied water onto the fire from a safe location with the pre-mounted nozzle on top of the truck. Smaller sized water hand lines were deployed from West Milton's fire engine. Water was shuttled onto the property by water tankers.

The fire was under control in 60-75 minutes. Overhaul was completed with assistance of the business owner and an excavator. Crews were on scene for four hours. EPA was consulted due to 400 gallons of diesel fuel and 300 gallons of hydraulic oil being released. 50 gallons of firefighting foam was used.

The business owner reported that the equipment was operating properly without any issues prior to lunch. The fire was reported by multiple citizens. The cause of the fire is undetermined with the most possible cause of mechanical issues in the equipment. The estimated loss to the equipment and raw materials is \$800,000.00.

No injuries reported to either the occupant or emergency crews on scene. The owner was on scene for a majority of the incident.

Bethel Township, West Milton, Vandalia, and Butler Township crews responded to assist in the fire fight and moving of water. Tipp City EMS crews were originally on scene and then staffed additional calls for service at the time of this incident.

All crews cleared the scene at approx. 5:05 pm.