

Woodland Scenics burning in Linn Creek by Lucas Bond

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Update: 9:40p.m. Jan. 5:

Firefighters across Mid-Missouri are still cleaning up in Linn Creek after a fire destroyed much of Woodland Scenics.

The company makes scenery for model trains and sits right in the middle of town on Valley Drive.

Earlier Thursday in a press conference the Osage Beach Fire Chief told me that there were at least 20 fire departments helping battle the fire in Linn Creek. He said that most of the fire fighters were going to be there all night to make sure the fire doesn't spark up again.

"Throughout most of the night we're going to start piece by piece tearing this building down. Generally this is something we don't do. Our concern though is with the amount of storage they had in this building of flammables, we're not going to be able to completely extinguish the fire," Osage Beach Fire Chief Jeff Dorhauer said.

The Linn Creek Police Chief told me that he got a call about the fire around noon Thursday.

"Around 12:10pm or 12:15pm there was a report of flames being visible from the roof of the building. They managed to evacuate everyone out the building safely," Linn Creek Police Chief Trevor Dowdney said.

At least 150 people work for Woodland Scenics, and right now half of the company's complex is destroyed.

"The impact on this community is going to be great. While majority of the building is still standing, there is smoke and water damage throughout the entire complex. We don't know when they will be back in production," Dorhauer said.

Dorhauer told me they will be investigating what caused this fire throughout the night and into Friday.

He said he hasn't seen anything that looks suspicious.

The water supply in Linn Creek was quickly exhausted Thursday.

Crews from 20 area fire departments helped haul water to the blaze and give relief to local crews.

Linn Creek is under a boil order until the water pressure gets back to normal.

Update: 7:10 p.m. Jan. 5:

Fire crews from 20 departments assisted with the blaze at Woodland Scenics in Linn Creek. Firefighters will stay there all night to be sure the fire does not start again.

Still no word on the cause, but the fire marshal will investigate tomorrow.

Update: 4:45 p.m. Jan. 5:

The fire at Woodland Scenics is out, but authorities are still walking through the building checking for hotspots.

Half the building was destroyed in the fire. There were no injuries and no firefighters were injured while fighting the blaze.

Authorities are beginning their investigation into how the fire began.

Update: 4:25 p.m. Jan 5:

Several area agencies are responding to the fire, including the Boone County Fire Protection District, Columbia Fire Department, Jefferson City Fire Department, City of Linn, Holts Summit Fire Protection District and Cole County Fire Protection District.

More than 27 Mid-Missouri firefighters are on the scene for mutual aid.

Original Story:

Fire officials in Linn Creek are battling a structure fire Thursday afternoon. Woodland Scenics is currently on fire. According to the business' website, it specializes in creating a variety of products for the creation of model scenery.

The fire is in the Osage Beach Fire Protection District. Several area fire departments are on scene, though, and water is being tanked in from Camdenton and Osage Beach.

Linn Creek issued a voluntary boil water order because of a loss of pressure from the fire. The City Clerk's Office said the fire drained their water system.

Anyone served by their water system should boil water vigorously for three minutes prior to use for cooking or drinking, disinfect food contact surfaces by immersing them for at least one minute in clean tap water that contains one teaspon of unscented household bleach per gallon of water and dispose of ice cubes and remake them with water that has been boiled.

For more information, people can call the Mayor or City Clerk at (573)346-6200.

KRCG has a team on the way to the fire and will have updates as soon as they are available. Stay tuned to KRCG tonight at 5, 6 and 10 as well as the KRCG Facebook page and Twitter Accounts.