

City of Napoleon, Ohio

Napoleon Police Department David J. Mack, Chief of Police

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Captain Stiriz
Napoleon Fire Department- 419-592-0441

M937 Co Rd 17 Grain Bin Fire

08/13/2022

Napoleon Fire & Rescue was dispatched Saturday, August 13, 2022 at 07:57 am for reports of smoke coming from a grain leg and silo. Upon arrival on scene crews found smoke coming from the vents of multiple grain bins at the Jewell Grain Company Elevator. Jewell Grain Co. employees were already on site and had located the fire in an overhead grain bin used to fill grain trucks. The bin contained about 41 tons of corn gluten pellets used in livestock feed. Fire crews along with employees of Jewell Grain Co. had to empty the grain bin of the pellets to be able to gain access to the fire. The pellets had become stuck together inside the bin and the large clumps had to be broken apart with hand tools to allow it to flow out of the bin and into trucks. Access to break apart the pellets was further hindered by the pellets that were stuck to the walls of the bin preventing access through doors on the side of the grain bin. Units operated on scene until the bin had been completely emptied of the corn gluten pellets. A total of 5,500 gallons of water was used and crews operated on scene until 1:46 pm. The cause of the fire was determined to be spontaneous combustion within the corn gluten pellets.

Assisting at the fire were Ridgeville Township Volunteer Fire Department, Florida-Flatrock Volunteer Fire Department, Jewell Volunteer Fire Department, Henry County Sherriff's Office. Sandwiches for personnel on scene were donated by Rivello McDonald's in Napoleon. Henry County South Joint Ambulance District responded mutual aid for two medical calls in Napoleon during this incident.