



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 28, 2006

American Red Cross Distributes Fire Prevention Information

An American Red Cross team will be sent to Rochester tomorrow (Thursday) morning to distribute fire prevention materials throughout the community.

“The goal of this ‘walk thru’ is to provide fire prevention information to the Rochester area where a house fire recently occurred,” said Jenny Antonacci, Community Relations Manager for the Illinois Capital Area Chapter.

The American Red Cross Illinois Capital Area Chapter responded to **six fires in four days last week.**

Three of the fires occurred on Wednesday, June 21 at 214 E. Canedy St. (Springfield), 875 N. 1700 Rd. (Owaneco) and 109 W. Washington St. (Edinburg). On Friday, June 23 a fire occurred at 611 W. Jackson (Athens). The other fires occurred Saturday, June 24 at 2510 Road Runner Ct. Apartment 3 (Springfield) and 6312 Weeping Willow Rd. (Rochester).

Red Cross caseworkers met with the affected individuals to identify their immediate needs resulting from the fires. Emergency assistance including food, clothing and shelter has been provided for those in need. A total of 26 individuals were affected by last week’s fires.

On average, the Red Cross, Illinois Capital Area Chapter responds to a disaster every two days. Last year alone responding to more than 115 disaster incidents, including 104 house fires, 2 incidents of flooding, 1 winter storm, 1 windstorm, 1 transportation accident, and 6 other incidents, providing emergency assistance to 534 individuals.

The community can help those affected by future disasters by making a contribution to the Local Disaster Relief Fund. All American Red Cross disaster assistance is free, made possible by voluntary donations of time and money from the American people. To help the Red Cross continue to save lives, contributions can be made to the American Red Cross Local Disaster Relief Fund by calling (217) 787-7602. Contributions may also be sent to the Illinois Capital Area Chapter P.O. Box 1058, 1045 Outer Park, Springfield, IL 62704-1058.

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