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Firefighters battle blaze and bees

Updated: Tuesday, 09 Jun 2009, 3:14 PM EDT
Published : Tuesday, 09 Jun 2009, 3:12 PM EDT

ST. PETERSBURG - Firefighters battled a swarm of bees during their fire extinguishing efforts at an older one-story wood frame home in St. Petersburg Tuesday morning. The fire broke out just before 10 o'clock in the 1600 block of 29th Avenue North.

The owner of the house, Robert Porter, says he was about to take a shower and noticed the kitchen was on fire. He called 911 while trying to douse the flames with a hose.

To make matters worse for firefighters, a power line fell off the back of the house, onto a chain link fence. This caused the fence to become energized.

Investigators estimate there is about \$30,000 to the home,

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which is about half of its value.

The fire is still under investigation. It is unknown if there was a working fire alarm in the house.

Red Cross is now assisting the homeowner. A bee keeper was called to relocate the bee hive and Progress Energy disconnected the energized wires.

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