

Minisink Hose Company No. 1

Box 372
Unionville, N.Y. 10988

Office of the Chief

Unionville Fire Department

Established 1895

Dennis, Denko

Watkins Glen, NY 14891

Dennis,

Given these crazy times we are experiencing, we are trying to limit the exposure of our Fire Department, as much as possible.

There is a good chunk of what they call "black dirt" in our area of coverage. Lots of root crops like onions, and celery are grown in it. It is quite rich in organic matter and can burn deeply if there is a long burn.

We had a call in that area last week. It came in as a brush fire but was found to be a rather large pile of construction debris: OSB, 2 x 4, etc. It being so wet this spring, the only rig we could safely get into the area was our brush truck. It is an F-250 with a skid unit that holds 225 gallons of water. We added ½ quart of Drench to the tank and began to knock the fire down. Using a 1" booster line makes the water last a good while but we were empty before complete knockdown. We returned to the road and got refilled and added the rest of the quart. After pulling some of the debris apart to get to the deeper seated fire, it was out, out. 450 gallons of water and 1 quart of drench.

Notwithstanding a very dirty truck, we were back in service in about 1 hour. Given my past experience, it would have taken an engine with 1000 gallons using water only to put that pile out, maybe more.

Glad we are using Drench.

John Clauson – Engineer

Unionville Fire Department - Orange County NY