

# BENTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

581 Highway 23 NE • P.O. Box 159 • Foley, MN 56329

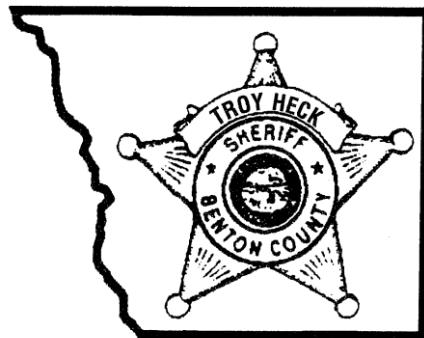
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**Troy Heck, Sheriff**  
**Neal Jacobson, Chief Deputy**

## PRESS RELEASE

**DATE: 04/01/2021**

### **AUTHORITY OF SHERIFF TROY HECK**

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is seeking the public's help investigating a series of grass fires.

Since March 29<sup>th</sup>, the Benton County Sheriff's Office, Foley Fire Department, Sauk Rapids Fire Department, and DNR fire crews have responded to 7 grass fires burning in road ditches in Benton County. The number and frequency of these fires, along with evidence found at some of the scenes, have led investigators to believe some or all of these fires have been intentionally set. The following fires are under investigation:

- March 29<sup>th</sup> at about 11:30 AM a grass fire was reported in the 2000 block of 55<sup>th</sup> St NE in Minden Township
- March 30<sup>th</sup> at about 9:25 AM a grass fire was reported in the 4700 block of 25<sup>th</sup> Ave NE in Minden Township
- March 31<sup>st</sup> at about 9:15 AM a grass fire was reported near the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 75<sup>th</sup> St NE in Watab Township
- March 31<sup>st</sup> at about 11:45 AM a grass fire was reported on 185<sup>th</sup> Ave NE near the intersection with Hwy 23 in Maywood Township
- March 31<sup>st</sup> at about 1:00 PM a grass fire was reported near the intersection of 180<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and Hwy 23 in Maywood Township
- April 1<sup>st</sup> at about 10:35 AM a grass fire was reported near the intersection of 55<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and 65<sup>th</sup> St NE in Mayhew Lake Township
- April 1<sup>st</sup> at about 10:50 AM a grass fire was reported near the intersection of 115<sup>th</sup> St NE and Mayhew Lake Rd NE in Mayhew Lake Township

The Benton County Sheriff's Office is seeking to make the public aware of these fire incidents and ask that anyone seeing suspicious vehicles report these vehicles to law enforcement immediately.

Anyone with information about these fires or the suspect(s) is asked to contact the Benton County Sheriff's Office at (320) 968-7201 or Tri-County Crime Stoppers at (800) 255-1301, [www.tricountycrimestoppers.org](http://www.tricountycrimestoppers.org).

Troy Heck  
Benton County Sheriff