

# Sherwood Park house levelled by gas explosion

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EDMONTON - A house in Sherwood Park was destroyed by an explosion after a contractor hit a gas line while doing repairs in the basement of the home.

No one was injured in the blast.

Occupational Health and Safety spokesman Brookes Merritt said a worker with Crack Buster Concrete was drilling into the foundation of a home at 582 Sage Cres. at about 10:45 a.m. on Monday, when he hit a gas line.

The worker and the residents immediately left the home.

Strathcona County fire crews were called to the scene. Deputy Chief Vern Elliott said firefighters were trying to isolate the leak, but it found an ignition source, and “away she went.”

The explosion destroyed the home, and caused some damage to neighbouring houses. It also sparked a fire.

Elliott said the situation had a high potential for danger, adding “thankfully no one was injured.”

A stop-work order has been issued barring the company from locating buried gas lines.

Elliott said he’s not sure how many people lived in the home.

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