



HAMDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

Hamden Fire Department
2372 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518
203-407-5880

David A. Berardesca
Chief of Department

Release: # 16-014

Date: May 19, 2016

Contact: Deputy Chief Gary Merwede

On Wednesday evening at 19:23 hrs. the Hamden Fire Department was dispatched to an animal rescue at Sleeping Giant State Park (SGSP). A male caller had reported to Hamden Central Communications that his seven-year-old dog named Maria had collapsed while hiking with him. The caller reported he was unable to remove the dog from the trail without help.

With the assistance of the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), firefighters from Engine 5 and Engine 9 entered SGSP from the far Eastern trailhead located on Chestnut Lane. The exhausted German Shepard-mix was found approximately 1/3 of a mile in on the Yellow trail. A portable stretcher was used to hand-carry Maria to a waiting DEEP ATV, for removal from the woods.

There were no personnel injuries and all units were back in-service at 20:30 hrs. (Photo: L-R FF Kurt Vogt, Maria, and FF Chip Talmadge)
The HFD has responded for 10 rescues on Sleeping Giant Since the beginning of the year.

