



PRESS RELEASE

From the office of:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Coon Lake Airplane Crash, Ham Lake, MN

On Thursday, April 30, 2020 at 1:58 p.m., the Anoka County Sheriff's Office responded to a small airplane that had crashed on the south end of Coon Lake in the City of Ham Lake. Prior to deputy's arrival, a private citizen had rescued the pilot and brought him to shore. The pilot received only minor injuries and was treated and released at the scene by Allina EMS. The pilot was the only person onboard at the time of the crash. The airplane is described as a Cessna 180 outfitted with floats.

The pilot is identified as Paul Erwin Youngquist, age 72 of Coon Rapids, MN. The pilot reported he was headed from Cambridge to the Blaine Airport and decided to do a touch-and-go maneuver on the water of Coon Lake. While conducting this maneuver the landing gear was in the down position and when contacting the water, it caused the plane to crash upside down. We are thankful that the pilot was able to walk away from this crash as there was potential for a more tragic outcome.

The FAA has been contacted and will investigate the crash. The MN DNR has also been contacted and notified since this involves a body of water. Plans for the salvage recovery of the plane are in process. No further information will be released at this time as it is an ongoing investigation between the FAA and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office.

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