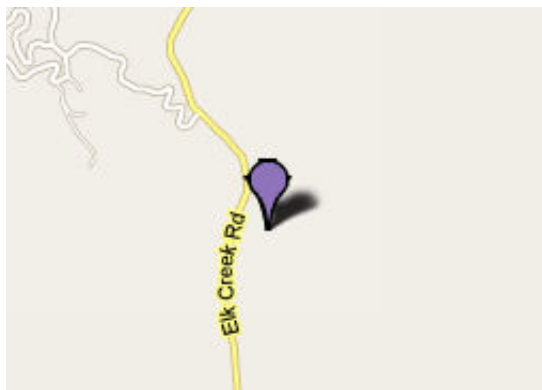


Pot Operation Burns in Triplett Structure Fire

Written by Steve Frank
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Stewart Simmons Firemen, backed up by other Watauga and Wilkes Fire Departments, are right now on the scene of a structure fire—with first reports from the scene reporting a fully-involved structure. The fire is reported in the Triplett area at 9055 Elk Creek Road. Sheriff Len Hagaman says the fire appears to be at an alleged marijuana growing operation and that there have been ammunition explosions at the scene. He says that there are more grow operations in another out building and that narcotics investigators are on the scene.