

# Man Rescued from NY Mine After 40-Ton Boulder Dislodged from Wall, Trapping Him



NBC Channel 4 New York  
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A quarry worker in New York was trapped in a mine Tuesday afternoon after a 40- to 50-ton boulder became dislodged from a wall and landed on the machinery the man was operating, according to the local fire company.

Crews from the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company in the Dutchess County town of Dover, as well as ambulances from the town, were called just after 1:30 p.m. after reports of a 40-year-old man trapped in a mine at the Wingdale material quarry. Soon other emergency personnel were brought to the scene, including a LifeNet helicopter to transport the man once he was freed.

Rescuers entered about 2,500 feet into the mine, where they were able to contact the victim, who was conscious and alert, officials said. He was trapped inside the cab of his excavator after the massive boulder fell from the wall of the mine and landed on the machinery.

Crews stabilized the boulder, and then worked to get the worker, who was receiving care from paramedics, officials from the J.H. Ketcham Hose Company said. After **just over an hour**, the

man was extracted from the mine and was air-lifted to Westchester Medical Center. He suffered injuries to both legs and a hand, but they are not expected to be life-threatening.

It was not immediately clear what caused the boulder to be dislodged and trap the worker.

# Wingdale Materials employee rescue from mine shaft a joint effort



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Yahoo News

A Wingdale Materials employee trapped in the cab of an excavator underground in the company's mine Tuesday is recovering in a hospital after being rescued by first responders. That's according to Bob Yaremko, assistant vice president at Peckham Industries, which owns Wingdale Materials in eastern Dutchess.

Yaremko said the man, a nine-year employee, "was struck by a large rock that became dislodged from an adjacent area" and became stuck in the excavator around 1:30 p.m. Tuesday. Arlington Fire Chief Bill Steenbergh, in a joint statement from his department and the Dover-based J.H. Ketcham Hose Company, said the boulder was estimated to weigh 40 to 50 tons.

Steenbergh said members both departments made contact with the man around 2 p.m., finding him alert but unable to move with the boulder on top of the excavator. He said technical rescue

technicians from the Arlington, LaGrange and City of Poughkeepsie departments worked together to stabilize the boulder before the man could be removed, which occurred at roughly 3:15 p.m.

Steenbergh and other emergency personnel estimated the man was 2,500 feet below ground; Yaremko said the mine is not quite that far underground.

After being extracted, the 40-year-old man was flown by helicopter to Westchester Medical Center. Steenbergh said he suffered non-life-threatening injuries to his legs and a hand. Yaremko said he had spoken with the man, who was resting.

Yaremko said the company is investigating the incident, along with local responding companies and the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

"We commend (the worker's) coworkers and the regional emergency services teams for their prompt and professional actions," he said.

Steenbergh said other responding agencies included Dover and Amenia ambulances, the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and Department of Emergency response, while LifeNet provided the airlift.