



“For Immediate Release”

## ***Auburndale Police Department News Release***

11/21/2010

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### **Plane Crash – Pilot not injured**

Alvin Geunge Ruppel 64 yoa from Lake Wales was piloting his 1966 Cessna 172 back home from a trip to South Carolina. Mr. Ruppel was flying into Winter Haven’s Gilbert Field at about 1:00pm today when he ran out of fuel. Mr. Ruppel said the engine sputtered and then just died ... he was just four miles from the airport.

Mr. Ruppel turned to land on Adams Barn Road, just east of Auburndale. When he touched down, he guided the plane off the road towards a retention pond to avoid hitting a concrete fence around the clubhouse of the Water Bridge subdivision. The Cessna skidded down the embankment into the retention pond into about four feet of water.

Mr. Ruppel did not receive any injuries. The plane suffered some minor damage to the wing from hitting a small tree.

The FAA and the NTSB were notified. The investigation has been turned over to those agencies.

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