



WHEREAS, Gaston County is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in Gaston County and visiting; and,

WHEREAS, fire remains a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and the presence of lithium-ion batteries in many household devices introduces unique fire risks; and,

WHEREAS, most of the electronics used in homes daily — including smartphones, tablets, laptops, power tools, e-bikes, e-scooters, and toys — are powered by lithium-ion batteries, which if misused, damaged, or improperly charged, can overheat, start a fire, or explode, and,

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) reports an increase in battery-related fires, underscoring the need for public education on the safe use of lithium-ion batteries; and,

WHEREAS, residents should follow three key calls to action. Buy only listed products, charge batteries safely, and recycle them responsibly to prevent battery-related fires; and,

WHEREAS, lithium-ion batteries store a large amount of energy in a small space, and improper use such as overcharging, using off-brand chargers without safety certification, or exposing batteries to damage can result in fire or explosion, and,

WHEREAS, the proper disposal and recycling of lithium-ion batteries help prevent environmental hazards and reduce fire risks in the home and community; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of fires through prevention, safety education, and community outreach, and,

WHEREAS, the 2025 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™ Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," serves to remind us of the importance of using, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries safely to reduce the risk of fires in homes and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims October 5-11, 2025 as

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout Gaston County

Chad Brown, Chairman

Jim Bailey

Bob Hovis

Cathy Cloninger, Vice-Chair

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Scott Shehan



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
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Emergency Management and Fire Services

Board Action

File # 25-458

Commissioner Hovis - Emergency Management/Fire Services - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of October 5-11, 2025 Fire Prevention Week

STAFF CONTACT

Vincent Wong - Emergency Management and Fire Services - 704-866-3277

BUDGET IMPACT

N/A

BACKGROUND

National Fire Prevention Week is observed across the United States each year during the first full week (Sunday through Saturday) that contains the date of October 9th. The 2025 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™ Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home," serves to remind us of the importance of using, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries safely to reduce the risk of fires in homes and communities.

POLICY IMPACT

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Proclamation

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows.

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	JBailey	CBrown	CCloninger	AFraley	BHovis	TKeigher	SShehan	Vote
2025-350	10/28/2025	BH	SS	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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