



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

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and,

WHEREAS, home fires killed more than 2,700 people in the United States in 2022, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 360,000 home fires; and,

WHEREAS, roughly three out of five fire deaths happen in homes with either no smoke alarms or with no working smoke alarms; working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires almost in half; and,

WHEREAS, smoke alarms sense smoke well before you can, alerting you to danger in the event of fire in which you may have as little as 2 minutes to escape safely; and,

WHEREAS, it is important that residents install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home, and to make sure their smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, residents should test their smoke alarms at least once a month and should implement and practice a fire escape plan to increase their safety from fire; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim October 6–12, 2024 as

## **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

and urge all the citizens of Gaston County to make sure their homes have working smoke alarms and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of Gaston County's fire and emergency services.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

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Cathy Cloninger

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Kim Johnson

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Allen R. Fraley

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Tom Keigher

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Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

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Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of October 2024



# Gaston County

Gaston County  
Board of Commissioners  
www.gastongov.com

## Emergency Management and Fire Services

### Board Action

File #: 24-408

Commissioner Hovis - Emergency Management/Fire Services - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Week of October 6-12, 2024 as Fire Prevention Week and Adopt the Theme: Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You!

#### STAFF CONTACT

Scott Hunter - Emergency Management and Fire Services - 704-866-3231

#### BACKGROUND

National Fire Prevention Week is observed across the United States each year during the first full week (Sunday thru Saturday) that contains the date of October 9th. The Fire Prevention Week 2024 campaign strives to educate everyone about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home. Make sure smoke alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.

#### 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	CBrown	CCloninger	AFrale	BHovis	KJohnson	TKeigher	RWorley	Vote
2024-363	10/22/2024	TK	KJ	AB	A	A	A	A	A	A	U

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