

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Proclamation

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK | 2025

- WHEREAS,** Durham County is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all those living in Durham 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,** Durham County Office of Emergency Services' Fire Marshal team joined by first responders throughout the county 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, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the October 5 – 11, 2025, as

"FIRE PREVENTION WEEK"

in Durham County, North Carolina.

This 22nd day of September 2025.

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

