



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Independence is dedicated to the health, safety, and well-being of all its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, fire remains a leading danger in homes nationwide, often originating from everyday items powered by lithium-ion batteries; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association has designated “**Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home**” as the official theme for Fire Prevention Week, October 5–11, 2025, aiming to educate the public on how to safely **buy, charge, and recycle** lithium-ion batteries and

WHEREAS, NFPA emphasizes three fundamental safety steps:

- **Buy safely:** Use only products marked with a nationally recognized safety testing label.
- **Charge safely:** Always use the manufacturer-approved charger on a hard, non-combustible surface, never leave batteries charging unattended or overnight, and unplug once fully charged.
- **Recycle responsibly:** Do not discard lithium-ion batteries in regular trash or recyclables; instead, take them to an approved battery recycling facility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of Independence, do hereby proclaim the week of **October 5-11, 2025**, as:

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in the City of Independence.

I call upon all residents of Independence to take the following actions during Fire Prevention Week and beyond:

- Purchase only lithium-ion battery products that meet recognized safety standards.
- Charge devices only with approved equipment, on safe surfaces, and never leave them unattended or overnight.
- Recycle spent or damaged lithium-ion batteries at certified recycling centers, avoiding household disposal.

I also urge all residents to test their smoke alarms monthly, plan and practice their home escape strategies, and partner with the City of Independence Fire Department in our ongoing mission to build a fire-safe community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Independence on this 22nd day of September, 2025.

Brad Bleichner, Mayor, City of Independence, Iowa

