

# Proclamation

## Fire Prevention Week 2023

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Pineville, North Carolina is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all living in and visiting Pineville; 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 2,580 people in the United States in 2020, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 356,500 home fires; 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**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half and Pineville residents should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond; and

**WHEREAS**, Pineville residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared, and are therefore more likely to survive a fire; residents should practice their home fire escape drill at least twice a year, during the day and at night; and

**WHEREAS**, Pineville residents will make sure their smoke and CO alarms meet the needs of all their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half and should be installed in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home; when the smoke alarm sounds, every occupant of the home should respond by going outside immediately to the designated meeting place; and

**WHEREAS**, Pineville's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; our residents are responsive to public education measures and can take action to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme, "**Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention,**" works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take, including preparing a home fire escape plan, to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jack Edwards, Mayor of the Town of Pineville, do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2023, as "**Fire Prevention Week**"

in the Town of Pineville, and I urge all citizens to plan and practice a home fire escape and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Town of Pineville and surrounding area fire and emergency services.

**PROCLAIMED** this \_\_\_\_ day of October 2023.

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Jack Edwards, Mayor