



City of Rochelle, Illinois  
Office of the Mayor  
Proclamation

**Fire Prevention Week**  
**October 8-14, 2023**

WHEREAS, the City of Rochelle is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; 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 2,800 people in the United States in 2021, and fire departments in the United States responded to 338,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States; and

WHEREAS, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

WHEREAS, children under five face a higher risk being burned in a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires almost in half; and

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

WHEREAS, the 2023 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, **“Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™,”** effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

THEREFORE, I John Bearrows Mayor of the City of Rochelle do hereby proclaim **October 8–14, 2023**, as **Fire Prevention Week** throughout this city, and I urge all the people of the City of Rochelle to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Bearrows, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk

