



Fire Prevention Week October 5 – 11, 2025

City of Rochelle, Illinois
Office of the Mayor
Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Rochelle is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in or visiting Rochelle ; 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 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, City of Rochelle first responders 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.

THEREFORE, I, John Bearrows Mayor of the City of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim **October 5–11, 2025**, as **Fire Prevention Week** throughout the City of Rochelle.

John Bearrows, Mayor

RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk

