

City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Lauren Poe
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The City of Gainesville, Florida is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Gainesville; and

WHEREAS, Home fires killed more than 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 357,000 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, More than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

WHEREAS, Children under age five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville's residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; 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 in half; and

WHEREAS, Home fire sprinklers save lives and are very affordable to install in new construction; and

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

WHEREAS, The 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme IM, "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!!" effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lauren Poe, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 4, 2020 as

Fire Prevention Week

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in participating in the City's fire prevention activities and efforts sponsored by Gainesville Fire Rescue.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 25th day of August, A.D., 2020.



Lauren Poe
Mayor

