



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
**Fire & Building Department**  
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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager  
**From:** J Kevin Nalder, Director of Fire and Building Department  
**Date:** September 8, 2010  
**Subject:** Kirkland Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Proclaim October 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010, "Fire Prevention Week"

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

Each year, the nation observes "National Fire Prevention Week" during the first week of October. This year's observation occurs during the week of October 3<sup>rd</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>. Fire Prevention Week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, in which more than 250 persons were killed, 100,000 were left homeless, and more than 17,400 buildings were destroyed. Proclamations declaring Fire Prevention Week at the municipal level support the efforts of professionals across the country to reduce injuries, deaths, and property loss, resulting from preventable fires.

The non-profit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has been the official sponsor of National Fire Prevention Week for nearly 90 years. This year's theme, "**Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!**" motivates families to make sure they have working smoke detectors in all the NFPA-recommended locations in their homes, to ensure they are able to survive any unexpected fires.

Kirkland's Fire Prevention Week will support the national campaign by focusing community attention on fire prevention and home fire safety. Kirkland Fire Department will sponsor the following activities:

- A public information campaign will be conducted, using local and City media. The focus will be on increasing public awareness of fire safety and the fire department's fire prevention programs.
- Standard and long-life smoke detectors, acquired through a public-private grant, will be distributed and installed by firefighters. Strobe smoke detectors purchased by the fire department will also be installed by firefighters for the severely hearing impaired.
- Open houses will be conducted at all Kirkland fire stations during Fire Prevention Week. At these events, citizens will get tours, learn fire prevention techniques, practice testing smoke detectors, and have access to fire prevention materials they can take home.

- Later in the month, on Oct. 29, an information booth will be staffed at the City's senior housing fair, at Peter Kirk Community Center. The event will be used to distribute information on fire prevention and provide displays on various types of smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide detectors.
- A video and brochure will be released that describe the fire department's in-home fire and fall prevention assessments. The brochure will be distributed through City and community facilities, through medical centers, and at informational presentations. The video will be aired on a City cable station and at informational presentations.



# A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

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## Proclaiming October 3-9, 2010 as Fire Prevention Week in Kirkland, Washington

**WHEREAS**, *the City of Kirkland is committed to ensuring the safety and security of the city's residents, workers, and visitors; and*

**WHEREAS**, *fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are where people are at greatest risk of exposure to fire; and*

**WHEREAS**, *each year nearly 3,000 people die as a result of home fires, the majority in homes in which no working smoke detector is present; and*

**WHEREAS**, *at least seventy-five percent of all structure fires in Kirkland are residential and residential fires have been steadily increasing in Kirkland over the past five years; and*

**WHEREAS**, *early detection and response to fires provides an opportunity to curtail the extent and spread of fire and a fire's risk to lives and property; and*

**WHEREAS**, *public awareness regarding the importance of smoke alarm installation and maintenance is essential in increasing the public's safety from home fires,*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, *Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim October 3-9, 2010, **Fire Prevention Week** in the City of Kirkland, and encourage city residents to protect their families through the proper placement of working smoke detectors in their homes, as recommended by the National Fire Protection Association.*

Signed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2010

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Joan McBride, Mayor