



CITY OF KIRKLAND
City Manager's Office
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager
From: J. Kevin Nalder, Director Fire and Building Department
Date: October 1st, 2013
Subject: Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor proclaims that October 6th through the 12th, 2013 as Fire Prevention Week.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Each year, our nation observes "National Fire Prevention Week" during the second week of October. This week commemorates the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, in which more than 250 people were killed, 100,000 were left homeless, and more than 17,400 buildings were destroyed.

The NFPA theme for fire prevention week in 2013 is "**Prevent Kitchen Fires**"

Recent studies conducted by the NFPA indicate cooking was involved in an estimated 156,400 home structure fires that were reported to U.S. fire departments. These fires caused 470 deaths, 5,390 injuries and \$993 million in direct property damage. Cooking caused 44% of reported home fires, 19% of home fire deaths, 40% of home fire injuries, and 15% of the direct property damage in 2010.

Children under 5 years of age, adults with disabilities and adults over 50 are most likely to be injured or killed in cooking fires.

Kirkland Fire Department responds to numerous kitchen fires each year in residential structures. Cooking related fires are consistently one of our leading causes of fire loss in Kirkland. As an example; In Kirkland, in 2012, two specific kitchen fires caused \$700,000 in direct structure loss and displaced 4 families for an extended period while causing significant injuries to one resident.

Kirkland firefighters and communication staff will be encouraging safe cooking habits, actions to take if there is a fire and that homeowners ensure smoke/CO detectors and fire sprinkler systems in the home are functioning properly. Fire Chief Nalder will accept the proclamation.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Proclaiming October 6-12, 2013 as "Fire Prevention Week" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, since 1925, the President of the United States has signed a proclamation each year pronouncing a week of observance for fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association, the world's leading advocate in fire prevention, encourages communities to participate in its annual "Fire Prevention Week" campaign; and

WHEREAS, the educational theme being promoted by the National Fire Protection Association for Fire Prevention Week 2013 is "**Prevent Kitchen Fires;**" and

WHEREAS, 165,000 residential kitchen fires occur every year in the United States resulting in 420 deaths, 5,350 injuries and \$993 million in direct structure loss annually; and

WHEREAS, residential kitchen fires account for 45 percent of the fires responded to by fire departments and 40 percent of all fire injuries, and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland will make additional efforts to educate the public on safe practices and actions that can reduce the losses in Kirkland from residential kitchen fires; and

WHEREAS, the Kirkland Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those living, working, and visiting our City;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2013 to be "**Fire Prevention Week**" in the City of Kirkland, Washington and encourage residents to protect their homes and families from fire by practicing safe cooking habits, making sure smoke detectors and sprinkler systems work properly in their homes and businesses, and eliminating fire hazards which can cause the loss of life and property.

Signed this 1st Day of October, 2013

Joan McBride, Mayor