



Proclamation

City of Spokane Valley, Washington Fire Prevention Week

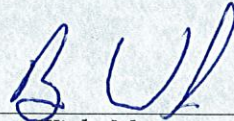
- WHEREAS,** *Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire tragedy of 1871 that killed hundreds of people, left thousands homeless and burned more than 2,000 acres; and in 1911 the National Fire Protection Association sponsored the first National Fire Prevention Day as a means to observe the anniversary and keep the public informed about the importance of fire prevention; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The City of Spokane Valley is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state as fire is a serious public safety concern locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Home fires killed more than 2,770 people in the United States in 2019, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to 339,500 home fires; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Smoke alarms sense smoke well before a human can, alerting people to danger in the event of a fire, in which people may have as little as two minutes to escape safely; and working smoke alarms cut the risk in half, of dying in home fires, and 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,** *Spokane Valley residents should make sure their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms meet the needs of their family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; should be sure everyone in the home understands the sounds of the alarms and knows how to respond, and have planned and practiced a home fire escape in order to be well prepared and therefore, be more likely to survive a fire; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Spokane Valley's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and we know that residents are responsive to public education measures so they will be able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in the home; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The 2021 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety" effectively serves to remind us of the importance to learn the different sounds of smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Wick, Mayor of the City of Spokane Valley, on behalf of the Spokane Valley Councilmembers, do hereby proclaim the week of October 3 through 9 as

Fire Prevention Week

throughout this city, and I urge all the people of Spokane Valley to "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety" for Fire Prevention Week 2021, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the Spokane Valley Fire Department, serving the residents of Spokane Valley.

Dated this 28th day of September, 2021.



Ben Wick, Mayor