



# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are where people are at greatest risk from fire; 4 out of 5 fire deaths in the United States occur at home each year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), home fires killed 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, and fire departments responded to 357,000 home fires; and

**WHEREAS**, the national fire death rate per 1,000 home fires reported to fire departments was 10 percent higher in 2016 than in 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and are therefore more likely to survive a fire; residents should practice their home fire escape drill at least twice a year, during the day and at night; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina residents should identify places in their homes where fires can start and eliminate those hazards; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half and should be installed in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home; when the smoke alarm sounds, every occupant of the home should respond by going outside immediately to the designated meeting place; and

**WHEREAS**, North Carolina first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; our residents are responsive to public education measures and can take action to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme, *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, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 4 – 10, 2020, as “**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this thirtieth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.