



City of Gainesville, Florida
Office of Mayor Harvey L. Ward, Jr.

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Gainesville is committed to ensuring the safety of all those living in and visiting our city; and

WHEREAS, homes are the locations where people are at the greatest risk of fires; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that home fires killed more than 2,800 people in the United States in 2021, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and

WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States and 2 of every 5 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, Gainesville's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Gainesville neighbors who are responsive to public education measures are better able to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Fire Prevention Week theme of, "Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention," effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harvey L. Ward, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2023 as

Fire Prevention Week

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our neighbors to join me in understanding the importance of taking steps to prevent fires.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 23rd day of August, A.D., 2023.




Harvey L. Ward Jr.,
Mayor