



Proclamation

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 4 - 10

WHEREAS, Jackson County is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting the county; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed 3,275 people and injured 15,775 people in the United States in 2014, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 494,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; and

WHEREAS, when smoke alarms should have operated but did not do so it was usually because batteries were missing, disconnected, or dead; and

WHEREAS, half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep; and

WHEREAS, residents should install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home; and

WHEREAS, residents should install smoke alarms and alert devices that meet the needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, 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, Jackson County's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Hear the Beep Where You Sleep. Every Bedroom Needs a Working Smoke Alarm!" effectively serves to remind us that we need working smoke alarms to give us the time to get out safely.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Jackson County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 4-10, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this county, and urge all the people of Jackson County to install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home, including the basement and to support the many public safety activities and efforts of the county's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2015.

ADOPTED the 1st day of October, 2015.

Attest:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman