



# City of Winston-Salem

## Proclamation

### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

- WHEREAS:** The City of Winston-Salem is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our city; and
- WHEREAS:** Fire remains a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and the presence of lithium-ion batteries in many household devices introduces unique fire risks; and
- WHEREAS:** Most of the electronics used in homes daily including smartphones, tablets, laptops, power tools, e-bikes, e-scooters, and toys are powered by lithium-ion batteries, which if misused, damaged, or improperly charged, can overheat, start a fire, or explode; and
- WHEREAS:** The National Fire Protection Association® reports an increase in battery-related fires, underscoring the need for public education on the safe use of lithium-ion batteries; and
- WHEREAS:** Residents should follow three key calls to action: Buy only listed products, charge batteries safely, and recycle them responsibly to prevent battery-related fires; and
- WHEREAS:** Lithium-ion batteries store a large amount of energy in a small space, and improper use such as overcharging, using off-brand chargers without safety certification, or exposing batteries to damage can result in fire or explosion; and
- WHEREAS:** The proper disposal and recycling of lithium-ion batteries helps prevent environmental hazards and reduces risks in the home and community; and
- WHEREAS:** The Winston-Salem Fire Department is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of fires through prevention, safety education, and community outreach; and
- WHEREAS:** The 2025 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, “Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home,” serves to remind us of the importance of using, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries safely to reduce the risk of fires in homes and communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. ALLEN JOINES**, Mayor of the City of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 5–11, 2025, as

## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout the City of Winston-Salem.

Given under my hand and seal this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

J. ALLEN JOINES

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Mayor