

The State of New Hampshire
By Her Excellency
Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor
A Proclamation

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK
OCTOBER 9-15, 2016

WHEREAS, The State of New Hampshire is committed to maintaining the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

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

WHEREAS, U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home fires in 2014, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and

WHEREAS, U.S. home fires resulted in 2,745 civilian deaths in 2014, representing the majority (84 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and

WHEREAS, In one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, the smoke alarms are not working; and

WHEREAS, Three out of five home-fire deaths result from fires in properties without smoke alarms (38 percent) or with no working smoke alarms (21 percent); and

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

WHEREAS, Many Americans don't know how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, or how often they need to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, All smoke alarms should be replaced at least once every ten years; and

WHEREAS, The age of a smoke alarm can be determined by the date of its manufacture, which is marked on the back of the smoke alarm; and

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

WHEREAS, New Hampshire's 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 2016 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of replacing the smoke alarms in their home at least every ten years, and to determine the age of their smoke alarms by checking the date of manufacture on the back of the alarms;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **OCTOBER 9-15, 2016**, as **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK** and urge all the people of New Hampshire to check how old the smoke alarms are in their homes, to replace them if they are more than 10 years old, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of New Hampshire's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2016.

Given this 9th day of October, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and sixteen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-one.

Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor

