

City of Statesville, North Carolina

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Fire Prevention Week 2026 Charge into Fire Safety™

WHEREAS, the Statesville Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Statesville, North Carolina; 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 fire risks; and

WHEREAS, most of the rechargeable 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® (NFPA®) reports an increase in battery-related fires, underscoring the need for public education on the safe use of lithium-ion batteries and devices; and

WHEREAS, the way lithium-ion battery devices are charged can make a difference in helping prevent home fires; and

WHEREAS, safe charging includes using the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer, charging on a hard, flat surface, watching for warning signs like devices that are very hot or start to swell, unplugging when fully charged, and charging larger devices like e-bikes outside and away from exits; and

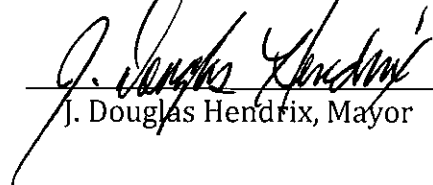
WHEREAS, residents are encouraged to understand that safe charging means making smart choices every time they plug in; and

WHEREAS, Statesville Fire Department first responders remain dedicated to reducing the occurrence of fires through prevention, safety education, and community outreach; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Safe Charging Is a Superpower," serves to remind all residents that safe charging can help reduce the risk of fires in homes and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Douglas Hendrix, Mayor of the City of Statesville, do hereby proclaim October 4–10, 2026, as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Statesville. I urge all citizens, businesses, schools, and organizations to join in recognizing this week by learning more about battery safety, adopting safe practices in their homes, and sharing this vital information with neighbors, family, and friends.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have set my Hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Statesville to be affixed this 26th day of September 2026



J. Douglas Hendrix, Mayor