




THE TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS  
NORTH CAROLINA

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Date: September 2, 2020

To: Debbie Diaz  
Town Manager

From: Troy N. Tilley   
Fire Chief

Re: Fire Prevention Week – October 4 – 10, 2020

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has proclaimed October 4 – 10, 2020 as Fire Prevention Week. The attached proclamation recognizes Kill Devil Hills' participation in spreading the NFPA's important message: *"Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen™"*, which effectively serves to remind everyone that we need to take personal steps to increase our safety from fire. We respectfully request the Board of Commissioners to adopt this proclamation.

Unfortunately, due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we are unable to hold our annual Open House; however, we have a very proactive social media campaign lined up to ensure our fire prevention and educational programs are not adversely affected by our limited face-to-face exposure to the public. We are also in the planning stages of developing alternative methods of delivering fire prevention messages to the public.

Should you have any questions, or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.



## TOWN OF KILL DEVIL HILLS

*Land Where Flight Began*

### **A Proclamation of the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners Declaring October 4 – 10, 2020 as Fire Prevention Week**

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our Town; 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 2,630 people in the United States in 2017, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States (US) responded to 357,000 home fires; and

WHEREAS, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the US, where fire departments responded to more than 173,200 annually between 2013 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, two of every five 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, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills' residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food, on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; 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, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half;  
and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills' first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education;  
and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kill Devil Hills' 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 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme <sup>TM</sup>, “Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!” effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking, to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Kill Devil Hills Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims October 4 – 10, 2020 as Fire Prevention Week throughout this town, and urges all the people of the Town of Kill Devil Hills to check their kitchens for fire hazards and use safe cooking practices during Fire Prevention Week 2020, and to support the many public safety activities and efforts the Town of Kill Devil Hills’ fire and emergency services.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the Town of Kill Devil Hills to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020.

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Benjamin A. Sproul  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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James Michael O’Dell  
Deputy Town Clerk