



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2024-82

### Fire Prevention Week

**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 have killed 1,592 people in the United States in 2024, according to the U.S. Fire Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms. Working smoke alarms reduce the risk of death by half in all reported home fires; 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**, the Fire Prevention Week theme, "Smoke Alarms: Make Them Work for You" focuses on educating the public about smoke alarms, including how to install them and ensure they meet the needs of all family members; and

**WHEREAS**, Charles County is fortunate to have over 1,000 volunteer professionals who are responsible for combating fires and reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries. These volunteer professionals are committed to serve, protect and educate the public on fire prevention and safety.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2024 as **Fire Prevention Week** in Charles County and encourage our residents to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes, and to support the many public safety activities during Fire Prevention Week.

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*  
*District 4*

Gilbert O. Bowling, III  
*District 1*

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.  
*District 2*

Amanda M. Stewart, EdD.  
*District 3*



Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners