



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2026-07

National Burn Awareness Week

WHEREAS, National Burn Awareness Week, an initiative of the American Burn Association, is a coming together of burn, fire, and life safety educators to make the public aware of the frequency, devastation, and causes of burn injury as well as consistent and authoritative measures to prevent these injuries and how to best care for those who are injured; and

WHEREAS, burn injuries continue to be one of the leading causes of accidental death and injury in our Nation, where tragically, children, the elderly, and the disabled are especially vulnerable to burn injuries, and almost one-third of all burn injuries occur in children under the age of 15; and

WHEREAS, the primary causes of injury include fire-flame, scalds, contact with hot objects, and electrical and chemicals. Many injuries occur in the workplace. Today, 96.8% of those who suffer burn injuries will survive. Unfortunately, many of those survivors will sustain serious scarring, life-long physical disabilities, adjustment difficulties; and

WHEREAS, the theme for 2026 is "Burn Prevention Where You Live, Work, and Play - Preventing Burns in the Workplace", where a common risk of injury exists from fire injury in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, significant research and medical advances have dramatically improved burn care and treatment, aided rehabilitation, shortened hospital stays, and increased burn survival rates. Aftercare support for the physical and emotional effects of burns has also played a key role in the successful reintegration of burn survivors into our communities. Furthermore, burn safety education and prevention efforts continue to reduce the number of people who suffer burns each year; and

WHEREAS, Charles County acknowledges the professionals who devote their lives and careers to treating, caring for, supporting, and rehabilitating burn injury survivors, including those performing vital work in burn research and development.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim February 1, 2026 - February 7, 2026 as **NATIONAL BURN AWARENESS WEEK** in Charles County and encourage all our residents, organizations, communities to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest

John Adelodun, Assistant Clerk to the Commissioners