



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2023-80

### Fire Prevention Month

**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 2023, according to the U.S. Fire Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms reduce the risk of death in reported home fires by half; and

**WHEREAS**, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms; 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 Month theme, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention" focuses on educating the public about simple but important steps they can take to help reduce the risk of fire when cooking at home and keeping themselves and those around them safe; 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 through prevention and protection education.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim October 2023 as **Fire Prevention Month** 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 Month.

### 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, M.Ed.  
District 3

Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners