

# PROCLAMATION



## Office of the Mayor

**WHEREAS**, the City of Appleton is committed to the safety of all residents and visitors, with our first responders actively working to reduce home fires and fire-related injuries through prevention efforts and public education; and

**WHEREAS**, home fires continue to pose a serious public safety threat, claiming over 2,700 lives across the United States in 2022, with fire departments responding to 360,000 home fires that same year; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately three out of five fire deaths occur in homes without functioning smoke alarms, underscoring the critical importance of having operational smoke alarms in place; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms can reduce the risk of dying in a fire by nearly half, providing early warning and precious time to escape, as residents may have as little as two minutes to safely evacuate during a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, Appleton residents are encouraged to install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home to maximize safety, and to ensure alarms meet the needs of all family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, testing smoke alarms monthly is essential to ensure they are functioning properly, and residents who plan and practice a home fire escape plan are better prepared and more likely to survive a fire.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, JACOB A. WOODFORD**, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2024, as

## Fire Prevention Week

and encourage residents to embrace public fire safety education and take proactive steps to protect themselves and their homes from fire. The 2024 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, “Smoke alarms: Make them work for you™,” serves as a vital reminder to ensure every home is equipped with functioning smoke alarms.



Signed and sealed this 25th day of September 2024.

**JACOB A. WOODFORD**  
MAYOR OF APPLETON