



Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

Recognizing and understanding that Cooking safety starts with you. Pay attention to fire prevention! Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire. That's the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Cooking safety starts with YOU! Pay attention to fire prevention." This year's theme focuses on the daily safe preparation of food.

Hill Air Force Base (AFB) Fire and Emergency Services is dedicated to the safety and security of everyone living, working, and visiting on our Installation. Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally. According to recent research U.S. home fires resulted in 2800 deaths and the loss of 140 firefighters in 2022. Fire departments responded to 338,000 home fires since 2020. 31% of those fires were the result of unattended cooking. One half of non-fatal burn injuries resulted from attempts by victims to extinguish these fires. Children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire. Today, home fires burn faster than ever! In a typical house fire, residents may have as little as two or three minutes to escape safely from the time a smoke or fire alarm sounds. Hill's First Responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education. Correspondingly, Hill AFB personnel are responsive to public education measures and can take action to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes.

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following recommendations:

- Residents should turn pot handles toward the back of the stove
- Always keep a lid nearby when cooking
- Keep a three-foot kid-free zone around the stove, oven, and hot appliances
- Watch what you heat
- Set a timer to remind you that you are cooking
- Test smoke detectors and replace batteries every 6 months

Therefore, I, Jeffrey G. Holland, Commander of the 75th Air Base Wing at Hill AFB Utah, do hereby proclaim October 8-14, 2023, as Fire Prevention Week throughout Hill AFB. I encourage everyone here at Hill AFB to be aware of their surroundings. Attend and watch what you are cooking. When necessary, respond to smoke alarm sounds by exiting the building immediately. Finally, I encourage the support of the many public safety activities and efforts of Hill's Fire and Emergency Services during Fire Prevention Week 2023.

JEFFREY G. HOLLAND, Colonel, USAF
Installation Commander, 75th Air Base Wing