

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

Whereas, the City of Venice, Florida, is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Venice; and

Whereas, the largest share of reported structure fires and most of the civilian fire deaths and injuries consistently occur in homes; and

Whereas, with nearly 3,000 home fire deaths annually, roughly one of every three fatal home fire victims being 65 or older according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); and

Whereas, most of the electronics in our homes — smartphones, tablets, power and lawn tools, laptops, e-cigarettes, headphones, and toys, to name just a few — are powered by lithium-ion batteries. If not used correctly or damaged, they can overheat and start a fire or explode; and

Whereas, when buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery, take time to research it. Look for a stamp from a nationally recognized testing lab on the packaging and product, which means that it meets established safety standards. Many products sold online and in stores may not meet safety standards and could increase the risk of fire; and

Whereas, always use the cables that come with the product to charge it. Also, charge the device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. If you need a new charger, buy one from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a hard surface. Don't charge it under a pillow, on a bed, or on a couch. This could cause a fire. Don't overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it's fully charged; and

Whereas, don't throw lithium-ion batteries in the trash or regular recycling bins because they could catch fire. Recycling your device or battery at a safe battery recycling location is the best way to dispose of them; and

Whereas, the 2025 Fire Prevention Week™ theme, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home" works to better educate the public about how to buy, charge, and dispose of them safely.

Now, Therefore, I, Nick Pachota, Mayor of the City of Venice, Florida, on behalf of the Venice City Council, do hereby proclaim October 5-11, 2025 as

Fire Prevention Week™

in the City of Venice and urge all citizens to follow these recommendations and support the many public safety activities and efforts of Venice Fire Rescue during the Fire Prevention Week™ 2025.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Venice to be affixed this 23rd day of September, 2025.

Nick Pachota, Mayor