

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, each year fires cause devastating personal injury and damage to property throughout Alaska; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, there were 845 residential structures fires reported in Alaska, resulting in 12 civilian deaths, 55 civilian injuries, 52 firefighter injuries and \$25,618,602 in property loss, and so far in 2015, numerous residential structures and millions of acres have burned in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, fires pose major public safety concerns, though they are largely preventable by practicing diligence in basic fire safety measures such as following the manufacturer's safety precautions when using appliances and unplugging them when not in use, being cautious not to overload circuits or extension cords, and not placing wires or cords under rugs or in high traffic areas; and

WHEREAS, primary safety measures are the responsibility of each individual, and it is imperative that Alaskans take responsibility and reasonable measures to help protect their homes, families, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, every Alaskan household and business should have a well-prepared fire escape plan and properly functioning fire safety equipment including smoke alarms and fire extinguishers which are tested regularly; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all Alaskans to practice this year's fire safety theme, "Hear the BEEP where you SLEEP: every bedroom needs a working smoke alarm."

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as:

Fire Prevention Month

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to implement fire safety and prevention practices to reduce fire-related injuries and prevent future loss of life in our communities, and to participate in public safety activities offered this month by the Division of Fire and Life Safety and emergency services across our state.

Dated: September 30, 2015



Bill Walker

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*