



Wheeling Fire Department  
Bureau of Fire Prevention  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **National Fire Prevention Week is October 6-12**

WHEELING, W.Va. – The Wheeling Fire Department invites the public to participate in National Fire Prevention Week – set for October 6-12, 2019.

This year's national theme is: "Not Every Hero Wears a Cape. Plan and Practice Your Escape!" The campaign works to educate everyone about the small but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe.

"The focus for 2019 is about practicing home fire drills. This week spend a few minutes, especially with children discussing exits and where to meet outside should you have a fire inside your home. There is not much time when escaping any fire – so planning your escape is crucial in order to make the most of your time," said Assistant Fire Chief Deric Jamison with WFD's Bureau of Fire Prevention.

National Fire Prevention Week was established to commemorate the "Great Chicago Fire" of Oct. 8-10, 1871, which killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures, and burned more than 2,000 acres.

Various educational opportunities will be available to the public, including firefighters with various city engine companies being stationed at several local businesses for the community to stop, get information and talk to their local firefighters.

Fire Prevention week will kick off a little early with the department's interactive fire safety house at Oglebay's Good Zoo from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday – all part of the park's annual 'Oglebayfest' celebration.

Additionally, Firefighters will hold informational public meet and greets from 2-4 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 8 and Wednesday, Oct. 9 at the following locations:

- Reisbeck's – Elm Grove
- Mt. de Chantal Kroger
- Warwood Kroger
- Centre Market House **(from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.)**

The public also is encouraged to stop by their neighborhood fire stations to meet firefighters, get a tour of their neighborhood firehouse and see the equipment used for fighting fires and saving lives.

Throughout October, the Bureau of Fire Prevention will be visiting various Ohio County public elementary schools with the department's Fire Safety House and fire trucks.

WFD also reminds everyone to change the batteries in their smoke alarms twice a year – most notably when we change the clocks for “Fall Back” and “Spring Forward.” Fall Back 2019 is Sunday, Nov. 3.

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