

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** The State of Oregon is committed to ensuring the safety of all those living in and visiting our state; and
- WHEREAS:** Last year, there were 2,454 home fires in Oregon, resulting in \$115 million in losses to homeowners; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregon's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence and severity of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention education; and
- WHEREAS:** Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are increasingly common in everyday household items such as phones, laptops, tools, appliances, toys, e-bikes, and electric vehicles; and
- WHEREAS:** While these batteries offer convenience and efficiency, they can pose a risk to public safety if misused; and
- WHEREAS:** The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) reports an increase in battery-related fires, underscoring the need for public education on the safe use of lithium-ion batteries and devices; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2025, more than 150 fires in Oregon were traced to lithium-ion batteries as the confirmed or suspected cause; and
- WHEREAS:** Safe charging includes using the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer, charging on a hard, flat surface, watching for warning signs like devices that are very hot or start to swell, unplugging when fully charged, and charging larger devices like e-bikes outside and away from exits; and
- WHEREAS:** Oregonians are encouraged to understand that safe charging means making smart choices every time they plug in; and
- WHEREAS:** The Oregon State Fire Marshal remains dedicated to reducing the occurrence of fires through prevention, safety education, and community outreach.
- NOW,
THEREFORE:** I, Tina Kotek, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim October 2026 to be

FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day September 25, 2026.

Tina Kotek

Tina Kotek, Governor

Tobias Read

Tobias Read, Secretary of State

