

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF MANITOWOC  
**Proclamation**

**WHEREAS**, the city of Manitowoc is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Manitowoc; and

**WHEREAS**, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

**WHEREAS**, home fires killed 3,655 people in the United States in 2018, according to the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), and fire departments in the United States responded to an estimated average of 354,400 home structure fires per year; and

**WHEREAS**, cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 172,900 annually between 2014 and 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, two of every five home fires start in the kitchen with 31% of these fires resulting from unattended cooking; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and

**WHEREAS**, Manitowoc residents should stay in the kitchen when frying food on the stovetop, keep a three-foot kid-free zone around cooking areas and keep anything that can catch fire away from stove tops; and

**WHEREAS**, residents who have planned and practiced a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

**WHEREAS**, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

**WHEREAS**, Manitowoc Fire Rescue Department is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

**WHEREAS**, Manitowoc residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2020 Fire Prevention Week theme™, “*Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen!*” effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. NICKELS, Mayor of the City of Manitowoc, do hereby proclaim October 4<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, as

**Fire Prevention Week**

throughout the City of Manitowoc, and I urge all citizens of Manitowoc to check their kitchens for fire hazards and to use safe cooking practices.

**In Testimony Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Manitowoc to be affixed. Done at City Hall in the City of Manitowoc this **21st day of September, Twenty Twenty.**

---

**Justin M. Nickels, Mayor**