



Fire Prevention Week

October 9th - 16th 2011

We are always helping others in their time of need...Fire Prevention Week is a great time to stop and make sure our families are safe!

Here's a little history about how Fire Prevention Week was founded ...

Fire Prevention week was established to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire, the tragic 1871 conflagration that killed more than 250 people, left 100,000 homeless, destroyed more than 17,400 structures and burned more than 2,000 acres. The fire began on October 8, but continued into and did most of its damage on October 9, 1871.

Interestingly though, while the Great Chicago Fire was the best-known blaze to start during this fiery two-day stretch, it wasn't the biggest. That distinction goes to the Peshtigo Fire, the most devastating forest fire in American history. The fire, which also occurred on October 8th, 1871, started and went through Northeast Wisconsin burning down 16 towns, killing 1,152 people, and scorching 1.2 million acres before it ended.

In 1921, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation. Since 1922 Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday Period in which October 9th falls. According to the National Archives and Records Administration's Library Information Center, Fire Prevention Week is the longest running public health and safety observance on record. The President of the United States has signed a proclamation proclaiming a national observance during that week every year since 1925.

Take some time this weekend to check your batteries at home in your smoke detectors!

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