

**CLAYTON COUNTY OBSERVES  
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK  
OCTOBER 6-12, 2013**

- WHEREAS:** Clayton County is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and 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 more than 2,500 people in the United States in 2011, and fire departments in the United States responded to 370,000 home fires; and
- WHEREAS:** Cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the United States where fire departments responded to more than 156,000 annually between 2007 and 2011; and two of every five home fires start in the kitchen; and unattended equipment was a factor in one-third of the reported cooking fires; and 57% of reported non-fatal home cooking fire injuries occurred when the victims tried to fight the fire themselves; and children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking than being burned in a cooking fire; and
- WHEREAS:** Clayton County 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 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 working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and
- WHEREAS:** Clayton County's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and
- WHEREAS:** Clayton County's 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 2013 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Prevent Kitchen Fires!" effectively serves to remind us to stay alert and use caution when cooking to reduce the risk of kitchen fires; now
- THEREFORE:** I, JEFFREY E. TURNER, Chairman, on behalf of the Clayton County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 6-12, 2013, as Fire Prevention Week in Clayton County, Georgia. I urge all citizens to take precautionary measures by checking for potential fire hazards in their kitchen and to always use safe cooking practices. During Fire Prevention Week, I encourage you to recognize, join, and support the many public safety activities occurring in the County and the efforts made by Clayton County Fire and Emergency Services.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Clayton County, Georgia, to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> of October in the year two thousand thirteen.

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Jeffrey E. Turner, Chairman