

September 24, 2026

Fire Prevention Week October 4 – 10, 2026

Fire Prevention Week is a nationwide event that encourages Canadians to take the time to learn how they can stay safe in case of a fire. This year's theme "Charge into Fire Safety™: Safe Charging is a Superpower" focuses on the everyday charging habits that can help reduce the risk of lithium-ion battery fires and keep homes and communities safer.

Tips for using lithium-ion batteries include:

- **Buy only listed products.** When buying a product that uses a lithium-ion battery, look for a Canadian safety certification mark such as cUL, cETL or CSA. This means it meets important safety standards.
- **Charge devices safely.** Always use the cords that came with the product to charge. Follow the instructions from the manufacturer. Buy new chargers from the manufacturer or one that the manufacturer has approved. Charge your device on a hard surface. Don't overcharge your device. Unplug it or remove the battery when it is fully charged.
- **Recycle batteries responsibly.** Do not throw lithium-ion, or any battery, into garbage or recycling bins. When processed they can cause fires. Recycle your batteries and devices that contain batteries safely at battery recycling locations. Visit call2recycle.ca to find a recycling spot near you.

During Fire Prevention Week, many fire departments across the region are hosting free events for residents to learn how to reduce injuries and deaths caused by fires in their homes, including demonstrations and fun activities for children. Residents can use the RDN's Fire Protection [interactive map](#) to see which fire department serves their area. Residents are encouraged to visit their local fire department's website and social media pages or contact them directly to find out what activities are happening during Fire Prevention Week.

RDN-operated fire departments, Nanoose Bay Fire Department and Coombs-Hilliers Volunteer Fire Department, will be hosting the following activities during Fire Prevention Week:

- Firefighters from the Nanoose Bay Fire Department will be going to the local elementary school to discuss lithium-ion batteries. Many toys and games require them and knowing their disadvantages will be covered. Other topics include replacing batteries in smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.
- Firefighters from Coombs-Hilliers Volunteer Fire Department (CHVFD) will join the Qualicum Beach Fire Rescue at Qualicum Beach Elementary School and Arrowsmith Elementary School for

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fire prevention education. In addition, CHVFD will also be visiting Arrowsmith Independent School to educate about home safety, burn prevention and campfire safety/wildfire prevention, and providing a presentation at the [Aging Well Oceanside](#) event on October 9.

For more information about Fire Prevention Week, visit nfpa.org/fpw. For fire services in the RDN, visit rdn.bc.ca/fire-services.

Key Points

- Fire Prevention Week runs October 4 to 10, 2026, with a focus on safer charging habits and lithium-ion battery fire prevention.
- Residents can reduce fire risk by using certified products, approved chargers and proper storage.
- Never put lithium-ion batteries in the garbage or curbside recycling. Take them to a battery recycling location.
- Many local fire departments host free events and school visits on fire prevention, home safety and wildfire prevention.

Quick Facts

- Lithium-ion batteries power many everyday items, including phones, laptops, toys, tools, e-bikes and scooters.
- Damaged or misused batteries can overheat, catch fire or explode.
- Warning signs include swelling, overheating, leaking, odours, smoke or unusual noises.

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For media inquiries, please contact:

Colleen Dane
Engagement Coordinator
Regional District of Nanaimo



778-674-4604



engagement@rdn.bc.ca

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