



## Fire Prevention Week 2022 Proclamation

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

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), U.S. fire departments responded to 486,500 residential structure fires in 2021 which resulted in 3,010 civilian deaths, 12,600 civilian injuries and \$12.8 billion in direct property damage; and

**WHEREAS**, newer homes are built with lightweight materials that burn faster than older home constructions and many of today's products and furnishings produce toxic gases and smoke when burned, making it impossible to see and breathe within moments and contribute to a much smaller window of time for people to escape a home fire safely, with people having as little as one to two minutes to escape from the time the smoke alarm sounds; and

**WHEREAS**, Manville's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; during Fire Prevention Week, our Fire Marshal, Richard Connolly and our Fire Chiefs, Robert Kostowski, Jr., Ken Skirkanish, and Scott Stapleton and their fellow firefighters are dedicated to keeping our Community safe and reminding all our residents of the importance of fire safety and especially the importance of having a fire escape plan; and

**WHEREAS**, this year marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Fire Prevention Week and this year's theme, "**Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape!**" works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires. You may have as little as two minutes to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds, your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning.

**THEREFORE**, I, Richard M. Onderko, Mayor of the Borough of Manville, County of Somerset, and State of New Jersey, hereby proclaim the week of October 9<sup>th</sup>- 15<sup>th</sup>, as Fire Prevention Week throughout this community. I urge all the people of Manville to develop a home fire escape plan with all members of the household and practice it twice a year, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Manville's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2022; and

**FURTHERMORE**, we offer our deepest gratitude to our Chiefs and all our Volunteer Firefighters who protect us from harm and keep our community safe every single day.

Borough of Manville

*Richard M. Onderko*

Richard M. Onderko, Mayor

Councilman Branden Agans

Councilwoman Suzanne Maeder

Council President Joseph A. Lukac, III

Councilman Ted Petrock

Councilwoman Barbara Madak

Councilman Stephen Szabo

Read into Record: October 10, 2022

