

CITY OF LAKEWOOD



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Fire Prevention Week provides an opportunity to recognize the importance of fire prevention, preparedness, education, and community involvement in protecting lives, property, natural resources, and the environment; and

WHEREAS, the threat of fire extends beyond homes and buildings to our parks, open spaces, natural areas, and wildlife habitats, where dry vegetation and invasive species can provide fuel for rapidly spreading fires; and

WHEREAS, preventing and limiting the spread of wildfires requires more than the response of professional firefighters — it requires residents, volunteers, community organizations, educational institutions, and local governments working together to reduce fuels and create defensible spaces before a fire occurs; and

WHEREAS, Fort Steilacoom Park and the South Sound Wildlife Refuge, contain significant open-space and natural areas where wildfire prevention and vegetation management are important components of community safety; and

WHEREAS, the “Scotch Broom Group” has demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to wildfire prevention and environmental stewardship by volunteering their time to manually remove Scotch broom, an invasive plant that can contribute substantial combustible vegetation to natural areas; and

WHEREAS, volunteers of the “Scotch Broom Group” gather every Wednesday to clip, cut, and remove Scotch broom by hand, performing the difficult and often unrecognized work of reducing hazardous vegetation and helping prevent the accumulation of fuels that can contribute to the spread of an accidental wildfire; and

WHEREAS, the sustained efforts of these volunteers demonstrate that fire prevention is a community responsibility and that individual acts of service, repeated week after week, can make a meaningful difference in protecting our parks, wildlife habitat, neighboring properties, and the safety of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood is grateful for the dedicated volunteers, organizations, City staff, and fire service professionals who work to reduce fire hazards and strengthen the community's ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to wildfires and other emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Lakewood City Council hereby proclaims October 4-10, 2026 as

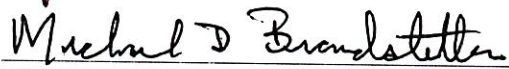
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

in the City of Lakewood and encourage all persons to join in on this special observance and encourages residents and community organizations to follow the example of these volunteers by contributing their time, knowledge, and effort toward preventing fires and protecting the people, places, and natural resources in our community.

PROCLAIMED this 5th day of October, 2026.

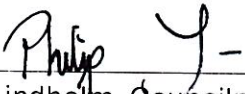

Paul Bocchi, Mayor

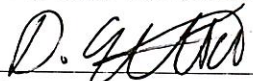

Parti Belle, Deputy Mayor


Michael D. Brandstetter, Councilmember


J. Trestin Lauricella, Councilmember

Ryan Pearson, Councilmember


Philip Lindholm, Councilmember


Ellen Talbo, Councilmember