



## Safety Bulletin October 2025

### Fire Prevention Week 2025: Charge into Fire Safety

#### Partnering for Community Safety: Focus on Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home

Fire Prevention Week is just around the corner! From October 5 to October 11, 2025. This year's theme is "Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home". Together with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®), your local fire department is committed to helping every family stay safe from fire risks—especially those posed by the batteries that power so many of our everyday devices.



#### Why Focus on Lithium-Ion Battery Safety?

Lithium-ion batteries are found in cell phones, laptops, e-bikes, power tools, and even children's toys. They help make our lives easier—but if not managed correctly, they can also create fire risks. Fires caused by these batteries can start suddenly, spread quickly, and are often difficult to put out. That is why being aware of how to buy, charge, and recycle lithium-ion batteries safely is so important for every household.

#### Buy Safely: Choose Certified and Reliable Products

- **Look for Certification:** Always choose devices and batteries that have been evaluated by a recognized laboratory, such as UL (Underwriters Laboratories). Look for safety certification marks on packaging.
- **Buy from Reputable Sellers:** Purchase batteries and devices from trusted retailers. Beware of cheap, off-brand products sold online or at markets—they may not meet safety standards.
- **Avoid Counterfeits:** Counterfeit batteries and chargers are a serious fire hazard. If the price seems too good to be true, it probably is.

#### Charge Safely: Simple Steps for Everyday Protection

- **Follow Manufacturer's Instructions:** Always read and follow charging guidelines that come with your device or battery.
- **Use the Right Charger:** Only use chargers and cords designed for your specific device. Mixing and matching can cause overheating or short circuits.
- **Charge in a Safe Place:** Never charge devices under pillows, on beds, or on couches. Heat can build up quickly and cause a fire.
- **Stay Alert:** Unplug devices once they are fully charged. If a battery is hot, swelling, leaking, or making noise, stop using it right away and move it to a safe location.

#### Recycle Responsibly: Protect Your Home and the Environment

- **Never Throw Batteries in the Trash:** Lithium-ion batteries should not go in your household garbage or recycling bin. They can cause fires in garbage trucks or landfills.
- **Find Local Drop-Off Locations:** Use designated battery recycling centers, hazardous waste facilities, or special collection events in our community.
- **Protect the Environment:** Recycling batteries helps keep harmful chemicals out of our soil and water, making our community safer and healthier for everyone.

#### Get Involved: Stay Safe, Stay Informed

Fire Prevention Week is a great time to learn, participate, and help keep our community safe. Here is how you can get involved:





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- Attend an Event: Bring your family, friends, and neighbors!
- Share What You Learn: Talk to others about lithium-ion battery safety.
- Spread the Word: Follow the local fire department and NFPA® on social media for tips and updates.

For additional information visit the NFPA website at <https://www.nfpa.org/events/fire-prevention-week#toolkits>