



For Immediate Release

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Practise safe charging habits

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 4 to Oct. 10

Georgina, ON – Georgina Fire and Rescue Services is teaming up with the [National Fire Protection Association® \(NFPA®\)](#) to support this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Charge into Fire Safety™: Safe Charging is a Superpower." Fire Prevention Week takes place from Oct. 4 to Oct. 10, 2026.

"The way you charge your lithium-ion battery devices can make a difference in helping prevent home fires," said Fire Chief Ron Jenkins. "It comes down to using simple habits each time you plug in. This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign focuses on the simple steps people can take to recharge safely. Safe charging means making smart choices every time you plug in."

Many devices used every day such as phones, tablets, laptops, tools, toys, e-bikes and scooters, run on rechargeable lithium-ion batteries, which store a lot of energy in a small space. If they are damaged or charged the wrong way, they can overheat, start a fire or even explode.

Tips for safe use:

- Use the cord and charger that came with your device or one approved by the manufacturer. Using the wrong charger can damage the battery and increase the risk of fire.
- Charge devices on a table, desk or other hard, flat surface. Do not charge them on beds, couches or under pillows. Devices and chargers produce heat during normal charging. Soft surfaces can trap heat and block airflow, which can cause the battery to overheat.
- Stop using your device if it feels very hot, starts to swell, is smoking or has a strange smell. These are warning signs that the battery may be damaged or failing.
- Unplug your device when it is fully charged. Do not leave it plugged in longer than needed. Leaving a device plugged in too long can increase heat and stress on the battery.
- Charge larger items like e-bikes, scooters and power tools outside and away from exits. These batteries are larger and store more energy. If they fail, fires can grow quickly and spread.
- When on a plane, keep your device where you can see it while charging. Do not charge devices in overhead compartments. Do not charge e-cigarettes or vapes on a plane. If a battery overheats or fails, it is important for the flight crew to respond quickly.

Georgina Fire and Rescue Services is hosting its annual [Open House](#) at the Sutton Fire Hall, 37 Snooks Rd., on Sept. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in support of Fire Prevention Week. The event will feature a free barbecue, interactive stations, the firefighter relay challenge and opportunities to connect with local community partners. Georgina Fire and Rescue Services are now on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Visit georgina.ca/fire for more information.

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