



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

Council Session

Item C3

Proclamation "Electrical Safety Month" May 2002

As part of a nationwide effort to reduce electrical accidents, the City of Grand Island has joined with the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) in a public education drive to raise awareness about electrical safety.

Each year thousands of citizens are injured or die from electrical fires and electric shock or electrocution. On average, 69,700 residential fires are caused by faulty electrical wiring systems, appliances, tools, or air conditioning, claiming 488 lives, injuring 2,405 victims and causing nearly \$890 million in property damage. On average, one person is electrocuted in the home each day and nearly five are electrocuted on the job each week. Millions of dollars are lost in corporate and personal productivity and assets because of related insurance and workers compensation claims and related litigation.

In May, the Electrical Safety Foundation kicks off National Electrical Safety Month to remind citizens to respect electricity at home, work, school, and play and of the simple steps one can take to avoid the personal tragedy behind the statistics. Steps like replacing old, worn or frayed electrical cords, testing smoke detectors and ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) and performing electrical safety audits.

The City of Grand Island is pleased to be part of moving this important initiative forward promoting a healthy respect for electricity and the safe use of electrical equipment. In addition, the Utility Administration office may be contacted at 385-5444 Ext. 281 to schedule an electrical safety demonstration to school groups, work groups, clubs, or service organizations. See attached PROCLAMATION.

Staff Contact: Gary Mader

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
City of Grand Island
State of Nebraska

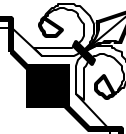

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, electricity is essential to our way of life; and
- WHEREAS, electricity powers industry, agriculture and our schools, heats and cools our homes, cooks our meals and washes our clothes; and
- WHEREAS, electricity is all around us and although it is essential to our way of life, it is also essential to **respect** the use of electricity; and
- WHEREAS, following basic electrical safety precautions can help prevent injury or death to thousands of people each year; and
- WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to check their home and workplace for possible electrical hazards to help protect lives and property; and
- WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to test their smoke detectors and ground fault circuit interrupters monthly and after every major electrical storm; and
- WHEREAS, property damage due to electrical-related fires amounts to nearly \$890 million each year; and
- WHEREAS, the efforts of the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the City of Grand Island Electrical Safety Program are to promote and educate the public about the importance of **respecting** electricity and practicing electrical safety in the home, school, and workplace; and,
- WHEREAS, the City of Grand Island is actively helping to move this effort forward in order to reduce the number of electrical injuries and deaths from electrical hazards.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Gnadt, Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2002 as

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

in the City of Grand Island, and I encourage all citizens to conduct an electrical safety check of their home, school and work place.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this Twenty-third day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Two.

Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

