



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, May 06, 2003

Council Session

Item C3

Proclamation "May - Electrical Safety Month"

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, 111,400 residential fires are caused by faulty electrical wiring systems, appliances, tools, or air conditioning, claiming 860 lives, injuring 3,785 victims and causing nearly 1.3 billion in property damage. In 1999, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission and OSHA, 170 people were electrocuted in the home and 278 were electrocuted in the workplace. Millions of dollars are lost in corporate and personal productivity and assets because of related insurance and workers compensation claims and litigation.

In May, ESFI kicks off National Electrical Safety Month to remind citizens to respect electricity indoors and outdoors 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), performing electrical safety audits and noting any outside electrical safety hazards. For a better understanding of electrical safety, one may visit www.grand-island.com/electricsafety or stop up at City Hall, Utility Administration, Suite 4, for educational material to be used at home.

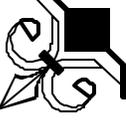
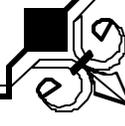
The City of Grand Island is pleased to be a part of moving this important initiative forward promoting a healthy respect for electricity and the safe use of electrical equipment.

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 \$1.3 billion 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; and,
- WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to visit www.grand-island.com/electricsafety or stop up at City Hall, Utility Administration, Suite 4, for educational material to use at home.
- 
- 

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Vavricek, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska,
do hereby proclaim May 2003 as

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

in the City of Grand Island, and I encourage all citizens of the City of Grand Island to participate this May in Electrical Safety Month by conducting an electrical safety check of their home, school and work place.

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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this 6th day of May in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Three.

Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

RaNae Edwards, City Clerk