



Weekly Safety Tip

Lithium Battery Bomb



SAFETY & HEALTH TIPS for

Fire Safety Month - October

Lithium-ion batteries are everywhere, powering your phone, laptop, iPad, toothbrush, e-bike, EV and power bank.

We love them because they're compact, rechargeable and efficient. But when things go wrong? They go really wrong.

Fires caused by lithium batteries are becoming more common and more dangerous.

A small phone battery can ignite a couch.

Now imagine what a beefy e-bike battery could do if it overheated in your garage.



🔥 Why these fires happen

If lithium batteries are damaged, defective, overcharged or get too hot, they can enter something called thermal runaway. This is a chain reaction where the battery can't cool down and catches fire or explodes.

And no, it's not just cheap knockoffs. Fires have started in brand-name devices, too. But cheap chargers, off-brand batteries and poor storage make things way worse.

💻 Laptop + device safety

- Never leave your laptop or phone in a hot car or on a windowsill in the sun.
- If it feels unusually warm, unplug it and power down.
- Use a free app like [Core Temp](#) (Windows) or [Macs Fan Control](#) (Mac) to monitor temps. Over 175°F? Bad news.
- Got an old phone you're not using? Don't toss it in a drawer. Store it in a [fireproof bag](#). They're \$20 on Amazon and worth every penny.

🚲 E-bike safety (big one)

- Only buy e-bikes with a **UL 2271-certified battery**. That label means it passed real safety tests.
- Use the charger that came with your bike. No cheap replacements.
- Never charge it indoors, especially overnight or when you're not home.
- Store it in a cool, dry place, away from direct sun.
- If your battery smells weird, hisses or bulges, unplug the bike immediately and call the fire department.

Please, share this to someone with a laptop, an e-bike or a junk drawer full of old phones. These tips could literally save a life.

Weekly Safety Share



October Fire Safety Month

OCTOBER FIRE SAFETY MONTH



Every October, communities across North America observe Fire Safety Month—a reminder that fire prevention and preparedness are essential for saving lives. While fire safety is important all year long, this month provides an opportunity to revisit essential practices at home, at work, and in our communities.

Fire remains one of the most preventable hazards, yet it continues to cause devastating losses.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA):

- Home fires claim thousands of lives every year.
- Cooking remains the leading cause of household fires.
- Smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in a fire nearly in half.

Fire Safety Month isn't just about awareness; it's about action.

Fire Safety at Home

Simple steps can dramatically reduce risk:

- Test smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries at least once a year.
- Create and practice a home escape plan with at least two exits from every room.
- Keep fire extinguishers accessible, especially in the kitchen and garage.
- Stay alert while cooking, never leave stoves or ovens unattended.

Fire Safety in the Workplace

Workplaces also carry unique risks depending on the environment—whether it's an office, warehouse, or manufacturing site. Employers and employees alike should:

- Know evacuation routes and practice regular fire drills.
- Keep exits and fire doors clear of obstructions.
- Check fire extinguishers and sprinklers to ensure they're functional.
- Train staff on how to use fire extinguishers and respond to alarms.

For more information take a look at [OSHA's Workplace Fire Safety and Prevention Tips](#). This Year's Theme: "Fire Won't Wait. Plan Your Escape."

The [NFPA's 2025 campaign](#) emphasizes that when fire strikes, every second counts. Having a practiced plan, working smoke alarms, and clear communication can make all the difference.

Fire safety is a shared responsibility. This month, take a few minutes to:

- Review your emergency plans.
- Conduct a fire drill with your family or team.
- Share fire prevention resources with your community.

By being proactive, we can reduce risks, save lives, and build safer homes and workplaces. Use Fire Safety Month as your annual check-in. Don't wait until it's too late—make fire safety a priority today.

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