



MACKENZIE FIRE-RESCUE DEPARTMENT

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Fire Prevention Week 2025

Theme: *"Charge into Fire Safety™ – Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home"*

From phones to power tools, Mackenzie Fire Rescue urges residents to buy, charge, and recycle lithium-ion batteries safely.

Mackenzie Fire Rescue is working in coordination with the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) to raise awareness about the risks associated with lithium-ion batteries and how to minimize them. This year's Fire Prevention Week™ campaign, *"Charge into Fire Safety™: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home,"* highlights the importance of buying, charging, and recycling lithium-ion batteries safely. Many of the electronics we use every day such as smartphones, tablets, laptops, e-bikes, e-scooters, power tools, and children's toys—are powered by lithium-ion batteries. As the use of these products increases, so does the number of fires associated with them. While lithium-ion batteries are efficient and long-lasting, they also store a large amount of energy. If damaged or improperly used, they can overheat, catch fire, or even explode. When handled properly, the fire risk is minimal.

This year's campaign is about more than awareness it's about prevention. Mackenzie Fire Rescue encourages residents, businesses, and schools to take a few moments this week to review how and where devices are being charged in their homes and workplaces. Simple actions like charging in open areas, keeping batteries away from heat sources, and inspecting cords for wear can significantly reduce the risk of fire. Every household and workplace should have a plan in place to respond quickly and safely in the event of a fire emergency.

Safety Tips: Buy, Charge, and Recycle Safely

Buy only listed products

- Purchase and use devices, batteries, and chargers that are listed by a nationally recognized testing lab.
- When replacing batteries, chargers, or cords, buy directly from the manufacturer or an approved supplier and ensure they are properly listed.

Charge devices safely

- Always use the charging equipment that came with the product and follow manufacturer instructions.
- Charge devices on a hard, flat surface—never on a bed, couch, or under a pillow.
- Unplug devices once they are fully charged.

Recycle batteries responsibly

- Do not throw lithium-ion batteries in the garbage.
- Recycling is the safest way to dispose of old or damaged batteries.
- Find a recycling location at www.recycleyourbatteries.ca.



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Mackenzie Fire Rescue encourages all residents to be aware of their devices and to buy, charge, and recycle safely. Stop using any device or battery that shows signs of damage, such as excessive heat, swelling, leaking, unusual odour, sound, or a change in colour.

Fire Prevention Week is a great time to check your smoke alarms, review your home escape plan, and talk with family members about fire safety. Mackenzie Fire Rescue thanks all residents for doing their part to help keep our homes, schools, and workplaces safe year-round. Working together, we can build a stronger and more fire-resilient community.

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