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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SARATOGA COUNTY SEEKS NEW VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS DURING NATIONAL  
FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

Residents Encouraged to Make a Fire Safety Plan and to Roll With Us as a Volunteer Firefighter

**October 11, 2022, Ballston Spa, NY** – The Saratoga County Office of Emergency Management is teaming up with local fire departments and the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®)—to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW), October 9-15, 2022 and to remind residents of the County’s Roll With Us campaign to recruit volunteer firefighters.

The Roll With Us campaign began in May of 2022 to help local fire departments address a critical need for more volunteers and continues its recruitment efforts on behalf of those departments.

“Across the nation and right here in Saratoga County, we are seeing a significant need for volunteer firefighters. This Fire Prevention Week, we’re encouraging residents to not only make a fire safety plan but to also make a plan to Roll With Us,” said Carl Zeilman, Director of Saratoga County Office of Emergency Management. “There are many ways you can use your talents to help your community as a volunteer firefighter. From controlling traffic to conducting search and rescue, each volunteer firefighter plays an important role.”

To learn more about the County’s Roll With Us Campaign, please visit [www.saratogacountyny.gov/rollwithus/](http://www.saratogacountyny.gov/rollwithus/).

This year’s FPW campaign, “Fire won’t wait. Plan your escape™”, works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe from home fires.

“Today’s homes burn faster than ever. You may have as little as two minutes (or even less time) to safely escape a home fire from the time the smoke alarm sounds. Your ability to get out of a home during a fire depends on early warning from smoke alarms and advance planning,” said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

Saratoga County Office of Emergency Management encourages all residents to remember these key home fire escape planning tips:

- Make sure your plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Smoke alarms should be interconnected so when one sounds, they all sound.
- Know at least two ways out of every room, if possible. Make sure all doors and windows open easily.
- Have an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.

To find out more about Fire Prevention Week programs and activities in Saratoga County please contact your local Fire Department. For more general information about Fire Prevention Week and fire prevention in general, visit [fpw.org](http://fpw.org) and [sparky.org](http://sparky.org).

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