



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

Agricultural Parcels

These standards support safe farming operations while reducing wildfire risk. Property owners must maintain their property free of fire hazards year-round. Additional abatement may be required due to regrowth or changing conditions.

Fire hazard fuels include weeds, dead vegetation (including leaves and brush), tree limbs, and combustible materials such as trash and debris, as well as unmanaged live vegetation.

STANDARDS FOR ABATEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

CROP CLASSIFICATION

- **Orchards and vineyards**
 - Weeds shall be cut and removed to limit fire spread capability.
- **Pastures**
 - Parcels less than 20 acres: Mow, disc, blade, graze or rototill a minimum of 8-foot wide perimeter
 - Parcels 20 acres or more: Mow, disc, blade, graze or rototill 20-foot perimeter
- **Hay and Grain Crops** must be harvested and disced completely no later than July 1st
 - **Exception:** This requirement does not apply to actively irrigated fields or late harvest crops when approved by the Fire Marshal

FIREBREAK REQUIREMENTS

Firebreaks shall be maintained as follows:

- Parcels located in Moderate, High, or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones shall maintain a firebreak within 100 feet of structures.
- Maintain firebreaks along parcel perimeters at a minimum of 20 feet wide.

COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL

Property owners shall manage combustible materials as follows:

- Weeds and Grasses cut down to 4 inches or less above earth soil
- Remove dead/dying downed trees/foliage
- Remove Tree Slash
- Combustible trash, rubbish or litter removed from the property
- Cut vegetation shall be raked, collected and removed
- Combustible storage such as lumber, cord wood, hay or straw
 - Maintain stacks neat and orderly
 - Clear vegetation to mineral soil with no continuous combustible cover to within 40 feet of each stack
 - Stacks limited to 100 tons
 - Maintain 20-foot separation between stacks.

TREATMENT

- Handwork
 - Handwork shall be used where mechanical equipment cannot safely or effectively reduce fire hazards.
- Discing/Rototilling
 - Vegetation or organic material turned so fuels cannot carry fire spread.
- Blading and Dozers
 - 75% of area must be clean dirt
 - Existing grade shall not be disturbed
 - Sloughed dirt must be spread out. Berming not permitted
 - Combustible material hauled away except when mulched and spread
- Mow or Graze
 - When discing, rototilling or blade work undermines a roadbed or disturbs a slope.
 - Remote-controlled equipment is acceptable where conventional equipment cannot safely operate.
 - Mowing, weed eating or hoeing
- Tree Maintenance
 - Limb larger trees to at least six feet above the ground, measured vertically from natural grade.
 - Smaller trees limbed to one-third their height measured vertically from natural grade
 - Consult an arborist prior to trimming trees, especially oak trees to promote healthy trees and reduce tree damage
 - Removal of a tree may require a City Permit, consult with City Arborist prior to removal.

SLOPED PARCELS (Vegetation Management Requirements)

- Property owners shall maintain vegetation on slopes up to 75 degrees in accordance with these standards.
 - Specialized equipment may be required to safely mitigate vegetation on slopes.
- Property owners with slopes over 75 degrees shall contact the Fire Prevention Bureau to determine appropriate management standards

ENFORCEMENT

Routine vegetation management inspections will be conducted **during the first two weeks of June**. Failure to comply with these standards could result in abatement by the City with abatement, administrative and legal costs charged to the property owner. **Abatement costs incurred by the City may become a lien against the property.**

Exception: Landlocked lots, property owners shall contact the Fire Prevention Bureau regarding appropriate abatement requirements prior to the compliance date. Landlocked is defined as a parcel of real property which has no access or egress (entry or exit) to a public or private street and cannot be reached except by crossing another's property.

QUICK COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

- Maintain firebreaks
- Cut vegetation to 4 inches
- Harvest/disc by July 1 (unless irrigated)
- Limb trees
- Clear around haystacks
- Maintain slopes
- Remove debris