



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT STANDARDS

Non-Agricultural and Non-Wildland Urban Interface Parcels

These standards support property owners in reducing fire risk while maintaining safe communities. These standards apply to parcels not classified as Agricultural or located in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Separate handouts are available for WUI and agricultural parcels. 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

Fuel Reduction Areas (FRAs) are areas where vegetation must be maintained to reduce fire spread. All vegetation management requirements apply within Fuel Reduction Areas.

FUEL REDUCTION AREA REQUIREMENTS

- **Undeveloped Parcels** shall establish and maintain firebreaks as follows:

Parcel Size	Requirement
≤5 acres	Entire parcel
5–10 acres	20-foot Perimeter + within 100 feet of structures
≥10 acres	20-foot Perimeter + 20-foot cross breaks spaced to create 5-acre grids + within 100 feet of structures

- **Developed parcels** shall maintain landscaped and non-landscaped areas free of hazardous vegetation, combustible debris, and fire hazard fuels.

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
 - o Maintain stacks neat and orderly
 - o Clear vegetation to mineral soil with no continuous combustible cover to within 40 feet of each stack
 - o Maintain 10-foot separation between stacks.

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All Parcels except Ag and WUI

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
 - Remove/trim branches that overhang a roof or come within 10 feet of a chimney
 - Consult an arborist prior to trimming 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
- Limb trees
- Maintain clearance around storage and structures
- Maintain slopes
- Remove debris