

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Fairview Fire Protection District

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FIRE CHIEF

GARRETT CONTRERAS

COURTESY NOTICE

Subject: Weed Abatement Reminder

Dear Owner/Resident,

California wildfire season usually begins in the month of April and ends in the month of November. This notice is a friendly reminder that weeds, rubbish and/or other unsafe conditions on your property need to be removed or otherwise abated before they become a fire hazard and endanger life and property.

The Fairview Fire Protection District (FFPD) is sending this notice to all property owners now so that arrangements can be made to have any necessary abatement work completed. Continuing maintenance should also be scheduled to keep weeds and debris abated throughout the entire fire season, which usually ends November 15TH. For your information we have attached the updated FFPD Abatement Standards.

Owners are required to maintain their property clear of overgrown weeds, dried vegetation, and debris in accordance with the FFPD Abatement Standards throughout the remainder of the fire season. Survey inspections will begin **after May 20, 2016** and will continue throughout the remainder of the fire season. If your property is not in compliance with the FFPD Abatement Standards, another letter will be sent to notify you of the corrective actions needed, then giving you **14 days to comply**.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have questions regarding this notice, please call the City of Hayward Fire Department at (510) 583-4930.

Sincerely,

City of Hayward Fire Department

Encl: FFPD Abatement Standards

Fairview Fire Protection District (FFPD)

ABATEMENT STANDARDS

The following standards are considered as a minimum. The Fire District may require additional abatement due to terrain, height of growth, location, use of land, etcetera. **No burning is allowed.**

RUBBISH, TRASH, OTHER UNSAFE CONDITIONS:

- I. ALL PROPERTIES
 - A. All rubbish, trash, trimmings or litter shall be abated.
 - B. All wood fuel or lumber shall be neatly stacked or removed from property:

WEEDS, GRASS, BRUSH, AND DEAD GROWTH:

- I. RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL AREAS
 - A. Complete abatement:
 1. All weeds, grass, or other vegetation that is dry or will become dry during the months of May - November must be removed or otherwise abated from the entire parcel.
 2. This abatement must be maintained whenever growth exceeds 4 inches in height.
- II. CROP LAND AND PASTURE LAND (LIVESTOCK GRAZING)
 - A. 30 foot wide continuous firebreaks (cleared space) shall be installed and maintained around each parcel property line as the terrain allows.
 - B. 30 foot wide cross breaks (cleared space) intersecting the firebreaks shall be installed:
 1. On one side of all obstructions to emergency vehicles such as ditches, creeks, fence lines and the like within parcels.
 2. On the top of all ridges, hills, and saddles.
 3. On both sides of access roads.
 - C. 30 foot wide minimum cleared space around all buildings or to property line, whichever is closer.
 - D. Complete abatement (cleared space) extending at least 30 feet beyond the foliage of any trees that would present a hazard to any building or structure.
- III. UNUSED LAND -VACANT PROPERTY (WITHOUT GRAZING OR CROP USE)
 - A. Residential and Commercial areas:
 1. Complete abatement (as per "I" above).
 - B. Rural property other than "IIIA":
 1. For parcels **5.0 acres or smaller** complete abatement is required.
 2. For parcels **5.1 acres or larger** requires firebreaks two times the width of the cleared space specified in "II" above.
- IV. INACCESSIBLE TERRAIN AREAS- (PROPERTY NOT ACCESSIBLE BY ROADWAY).
 - A. Graded fire trails, maintained to provide access for firefighting personnel and equipment may be used in place of firebreaks and cross breaks on an area-by-area basis.
- V. WEED ABATEMENT ENFORCEMENT CHARGES:
 - A. Property owners found to be in violation of Ordinance 1 shall be processed as follows:
 1. A notice to abate will be mailed to those property owners whose property is determined to present a hazard per the Weed Abatement Ordinance for Fairview. No fee will be assessed if the required corrections are satisfactorily completed by the date indicated on the notice.
 2. If the property has not been satisfactorily abated by the compliance date, the City of Hayward will assign a contractor to abate the property. In addition to the contractor's costs, a **\$522** fee shall be assessed to cover the City's costs of two site inspections, site photographs, researching ownership records of properties in violation, sending abatement notices, file preparation and maintenance, internal vehicle charges, etc. Contractor's costs will be paid by FFPD. Thereupon, the City will invoice the property owners on Fairview's behalf in order to recover the above costs.
 3. If it is necessary to place a lien on the property to recover unpaid fees, after a public hearing and confirmation by the FFPD Board of Directors, an additional **\$392** processing fee shall be levied, payable to FFPD, which shall forthwith be delivered to the City of Hayward as reimbursement.