

Fire Resistant Landscape

The following is a partial list of fire resistant plants that you may choose to use around your home to reduce the risk of fire. Contact your local nursery for selections appropriate to your area. All grasses, including those purportedly fire resistant, must be maintained below 6" in height.

Trees:

African Sumac
California Pepper



African Sumac

Groundcover:

Aaron's Bear
Australian Daisy
Candytuft
Sterile Capeweed
Freeway Daisy
Rock Rose
(except Gum Variety)



Freeway Daisy

Shrubs

Bearberry
Carmel Creeper
Carolina Cherry
Catalina Cherry
Escallonia
Hopseed Bush
Lemonade Berry



Escallonia

Weed Abatement Program

Fire safety is essential to protect lives, preserve property, ensure the well-being of our communities, and minimize the environmental impact. Implementing fire safety measures by removing fire hazards from your parcel is a proactive way to reduce the risk of injury, death, and extensive damage caused by fires. Effective prevention and preparedness measures not only save lives but also safeguard our environment and reduce economic losses. Maintaining proper clearance requirements is a shared responsibility.

The Santa Clara County Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency - Weed Abatement Program (WAP) and your city are working together to protect your community from fire. We work with all County cities except Saratoga, Mountain View and Sunnyvale.

Fees will be assessed for any property in the program and cover the cost of the compliance inspection for the property. Properties that fail the compliance inspection will be charged a failed inspection fee, even if the resident completes the weed abatement. If the property requires abatement by the County contractor, the property owner will be responsible for the actual cost of abatement plus an administrative fee. Properties that meet and maintain the minimum fire safety standards will only be charged the annual fee.

FAQs

Q. Why have I received an Abatement Notice?

A. A Weed Abatement Inspector identified a potential fire hazard on your property during fire season. Fire Departments and other agencies also submit complaints to the Weed Abatement Program.

Q. What is required of me now that I am in the program?

A. You are required to keep your property free of fire hazards throughout the year.

Q. How long will I be in the program?

A. Your property will remain on the program for three consecutive years. If no hazards are found during that time, your property may be removed from the program.

Q. What do I do if there are Burrowing Owls on my property?

A. These owls are listed as a state Species of Special concern and are protected by the federal Migratory Bird Act. To abate your property, you must use a form of weed abatement that does not endanger the birds (mowing or weed eating).

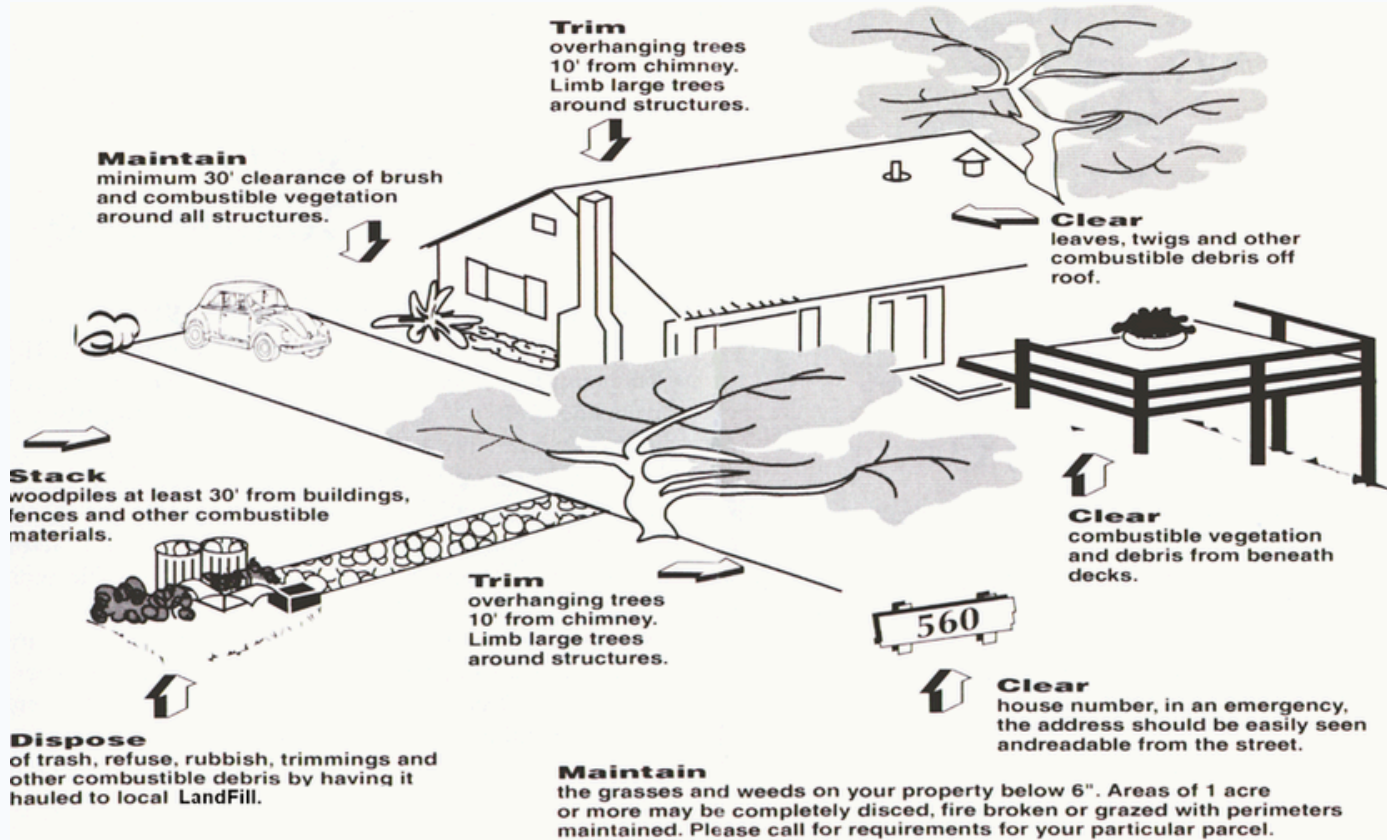
Q. Where can I find more information?

A. We can help! Call us at 408-282-3145, send us an email at scc.weedabatement@cep.sccgov.org, or check out our website at weedabatement.santaclaracounty.gov. There you can find more information about the Minimum Fire Safety Standards, as well as answers to many frequently asked questions.

Our Goal is Voluntary Compliance

Parcels one acre or less shall be completely abated. Parcels over one acre up to five acres require 30-foot clearance around structures and perimeter property lines. Additional 30-foot cross fuel breaks may also be required. Parcels larger than five acres require 30-foot clearance around structures and perimeter property lines in addition to 30-foot cross fuel breaks as needed to separate the remaining vegetation into sections no larger than five acres.

Weed Abatement Program Minimum Fire Safety Standards



Scan the QR code to learn more about the Minimum Fire Safety Standards

Weed Abatement
A Program of the Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA)



408-282-3145



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