



# Fire Prevention Services, Inc.\*



P.O. Box 1720, El Cajon, CA 92022 Phone: (1) 866-779-3774 ext. 306 Fax (619) 445-6336 [www.fireprevention.net](http://www.fireprevention.net)

## **HAZARD REDUCTION AND VEGETATION CLEARANCE STANDARD**

1. Trash, rubbish, debris, and other combustible materials that create a fire hazard must be removed from the property and properly disposed of.
2. Properties of one (1) acre or less shall be cleared of hazards in their entirety.
3. Properties of more than one (1) acre shall have one hundred (100') feet clearance from structures and thirty (30') feet clearance around the perimeter. Distance shall be measured in a horizontal plane.
4. Roadways and/or driveways shall be cleared of vegetation to at least the width of the roadway plus ten (10') feet on each side, and to a height of thirteen and one-half (13 1/2') feet above the road surface.
5. Contiguous parcels (by the same owner) may be considered as one parcel for the purposes of abatement.
6. When authorized by the Fire Marshal, additional vegetation clearance and hazard reduction may be required.
7. Clearance of properties shall be accomplished by methods that will not disturb native soil or rootstock. Grading shall not be used to clear properties without a valid City/County Grading Permit.
8. Native chaparral may be thinned as approved by the Fire Department.
9. Mature trees must be trimmed to six (6') feet above the ground or as approved by the Fire Department and must be cut back at least ten (10') feet from chimneys. All leaves, bark, and other debris must be removed from the ground and roof.
10. All cuttings may be mulched and left on top of the soil to a maximum depth of six (6") inches or may be hauled to an approved County landfill site.
11. Firewood shall not be stored in unenclosed spaces beneath buildings or structures, or on decks or under eaves, conopies or other projections or overhangs. Storage of firewood material shall be located a minimum of thirty (30) feet from structures and separated from the crown of trees by minimum of fifteen (15') feet, measured horizontally. Firewood and combustible materials not for consumption on the premises shall be stored so as to not pose a hazard.

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12. Property owners shall clear any combustible material, weeds, brush, trees or other vegetation (including mulch) that is, or could become, dry and could be capable of transmitting fire, from within fifty (50') feet of raw green-waste and mulch piles. Clearance shall be to bare earth or approved pavement. Individual growing trees within that distance may remain with approval of the Chief. Piles shall be separated from adjacent piles and property lines by a distance not less than twenty (20') feet.

13. All dead palm fronds including older leaves that persist on the tree, forming a "skirt" of brown thatch shall not exceed ten (10') feet in depth. This requirement applies to palms within one hundred (100') feet of any structure or within thirty (30') feet of a driveway or roadway.

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