

PUBLIC NUISANCE AND VEGETATION CLEARANCE STANDARDS
PURSUANT TO SANTEE MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 8.48

1. Trash, rubbish, debris and other combustible materials must be removed from the entire property and properly disposed of.
2. Properties shall be mowed and/or cleared a distance of one hundred (100') feet from any structures or adjacent structures. Distance shall be measured in a horizontal plane.
3. Roadways and or driveways shall be cleared to at least the width of the roadway plus at least ten (10') feet and up to thirty (30') feet on each side, and to a height of thirteen and one-half (13 1/2') feet above the road surface.
4. **CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS:**
 - a. Clearance of properties shall be accomplished by methods that *will not disturb native soil or root stock*. Grading shall not be used to clear the properties without a valid grading permit.
 - b. Native chaparral may be thinned as approved by the Fire Department. Cuttings may be mulched and left on top of the soil to a maximum depth of six inches (6") or may be hauled to an approved landfill site.
 - c. Mature trees must be trimmed to six feet (6') above the ground or as approved by the Fire Department and must be cut back at least ten feet (10') from chimneys and propane tanks. All leaves, bark and other debris must be removed from the ground and roof.

*******IMPORTANT*******

NOTE: Land owners who have been noticed of the existence of a rare, threatened, of endangered plant on the property to be cleared must notify the Department of Fish and Game at least 10 days in advance of undertaking the vegetation clearance. If the landowner is aware of any state or federal listed species on the property, then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Fish and Game should be notified prior to abatement. If a state or federal candidate or species is killed, injured and captured, the landowner shall report this information to the Department of Fish and Game or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, respectfully. If you suspect you may have species of coastal sage or known Gnatcatcher habitat on your property or are in question, a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife may be required prior to clearing. (760) 431-9440.

Landowners who have received notice from the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the occurrence of rare, threatened, or endangered species on their property in areas subject to fuel break clearance must notify both agencies in writing at least ten (10) days prior to vegetation clearing. The agencies will have up to ten (10) days following such notification to (1) determine whether the proposed clearing complies with State and/or Federal endangered species requirements and (2) to suggest voluntary, alternative abatement measures if feasible and warranted, Failure of the agencies to respond within ten (10) days will allow the landowner to proceed with abatement activities without further delay. Failure by landowners to provide adequate notification as described above may render landowners liable under State and Federal law.