



Weed Abatement

Frequently asked questions

Q - What is the abatement deadline for 2024?

A - June 3 for East, Central and West County

Q - What laws dictate weed abatement?

A - The California Fire Code, California Health & Safety Code, and the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District Ordinance.

Q - Can the Fire District abate dead trees?

A - It depends...a dead tree that is laying down on the ground is a fire hazard and our abatement laws cover that, but there is no law governing the abatement of a standing dead tree.

Q - Is a mulch pile a fire hazard?

A - No, but the mulch pile should be at least 10' away from any building.

Q - A tree was cut down, but they left behind the tree trunk rounds and the limbs. Is this a fire hazard?

A - No, not as long as the limbs are a minimum of 3" in diameter and if all of the limbs and rounds are stacked in neat piles.

Q - Will the Fire District abate vacant lots that are full of trash and rubbish?

A - No, please contact your local City or County Code Enforcement agency.

Q - How do I file a complaint about an overgrown property?

A - Go to our website at www.cccfpd.org and on the front page of the website there is a graphic in the top right hand corner. Click on that graphic and you will be redirected to the Weed Abatement Complaint Form.

Q - Why have I received an Abatement Notice?

A - Typically, a property is placed on the program after an inspector identifies a potential fire hazard on the premises. Fire Departments, Code Enforcement, Public Works and other public agencies also submit complaints to the County's Consumer & Environmental Protection Agency - Weed Abatement Program.

Q - How does the county identify my parcel?

A - County Assessor Office Data combined with Clerk Recorder Information is accessed by Inspectors to identify parcel boundaries or other property concerns. Our Inspectors also use GIS mapping software.



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Q - What form of abatement should I use on my property ?

A - This is up to the property owner. Different types of abatement including discing, mowing, or weed whacking can all be used to complete abatement. Please refer to the Weed Abatement Standards on our website or you can copy and paste this link into your web browser:

<https://www.cccfpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WA-2-minimum-standards-17.pdf>

Q - I have grazing animals, do I need to perform abatement?

A - Please refer to our minimum weed abatement requirements on our website or you can copy and paste this link into your web browser:

<https://www.cccfpd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/WA-2-minimum-standards-17.pdf>

Q - Where can I find a contractor to abate my property?

A - The CCCFPD has a list of approved weed abatement contractors that you can view or you can pick a contractor or your choice.

Q - There is debris and garbage on my property that I did not put there - Why am I responsible?

A - If you are the property owner, then you are exclusively responsible for maintaining the condition of that property.

Q - I cut my weeds before the deadline so why am I still receiving a notice?

A - Property owners must maintain their property throughout the fire season. (Fire season usually runs from May - October) If a property is cut prior to the deadline, and the growth returns prior to an inspection, then the property could be found in violation. Property owners should inspect their properties on a regular basis to check for re-growth, or any new problems, such as dead trees, or items dumped on the property

Q - What do I do if I am not the owner of the property listed on the notice?

A - Contact the CCCFPD by email @ exhaz@cccfpd.org so we may update our records.

Q - How can I get additional information or assistance regarding the specific requirements for my property?

A - Please email the exterior hazard program @ exhaz@cccfpd.org to request an onsite consultation with the program staff.