



NOTICE OF FIRE HAZARD INSPECTION

A fire department representative has inspected your property for fire hazards. You are hereby notified to correct the Violation(s) indicated below.

Failure to correct these violations may result in a citation and fine.

Occupant:		Physical Address:			Phone #:
Occupant Not Home: 1 st Attempt: ____/____/____	Occupant Not Home: 2 nd Attempt: ____/____/____	Refused Inspection: ____/____/____	For Questions, Contact Inspector at: (____) ____-____		
Rooftop Construction Combustible/Non-Combustible	Exterior Siding Combustible/Non-Combustible	Window Panes Single Pane/Multi-Pane	Eaves Enclosed/Unenclosed	Decks or Porches Masonry/Composite/Wood	Location of Structure Flat Ground/Slope/Ridge Top

Defensible Space Zone (within 30 feet of all structures or to property line):

- ☐ Remove all branches within 10 feet of any stovepipe or chimney outlet. PRC §4291(a)(4)
- ☐ Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches and stairways etc. PRC §4291(a)(6)
- ☐ Remove all dead or dying trees, branches, shrubs or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings. PRC §4291(a)(5)
- ☐ Prune lower branches of trees to a height of 6 to 15 feet (or 1/3 tree height for trees under 18 feet). PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Remove all dead or dying grass, leaves, needles or other vegetation. PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs. PRC §4291(a)(1)

Reduced Fuel Zone (within 30 - 100 feet of all structures or to property line):

- ☐ Mow dead or dying grass to a maximum of 4 inches in height. Trimmings may remain on the ground. PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Live flammable ground cover less than 18 inches in height may remain, but overhanging and adjacent trees must be pruned to a height of 6 to 15 feet. PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Reduce fuels in accordance with the Continuous Tree Canopy Standard (see back). PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Reduce fuels in accordance with the Horizontal Spacing Standard (see back). PRC §4291(a)(1)

Defensible and Reduced Fuel Zone (within 100 feet of all structures or to property line):

- ☐ Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from structures and other vegetation. PRC §4291(a)(1)
- ☐ Remove all dead or dying brush and trees, and all dead or dying tree branches within 15 feet of the ground. PRC §4291(a)(1)

Other Requirements:

- ☐ Clear all flammable vegetation, trash and other combustible materials 10 feet around and above propane tanks. CFC §3807.3
- ☐ Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (4" Min. Size) and readable from the street or access road. CFC §505.1 O.
- ☐ Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inch and 1/2 inch. CBC §2113.9.1

Recommendations:

- ☐ Clear 10 feet around and 15 feet above fuels (e.g. Woodpiles, lumber, scrap etc.). Move woodpiles as far as possible from structures.
- ☐ Remove flammable materials stored under decks and similar overhangs of structures.
- ☐ Clear vegetation 10 feet from sides and 15 feet above all driveways and turnaround areas.
- ☐ No violations observed.

Comments: _____

Inspector _____

Date ____/____/____

Continuous Tree Canopy Standard

To achieve defensible space while keeping a larger stand of trees with a continuous tree canopy, adhere to the guidelines below:

- Prune lower branches of trees to a height of 6 to 15 feet from the top of the vegetation below or 1/3 to 1/2 the tree height for trees under 30 feet, whichever is less.
- Remove all ground fuels greater than four inches in height. Single trees or other vegetation may be kept if they are well spaced, well pruned, well maintained, free of all dead material, and will not spread fire to other vegetation or structures.

Horizontal Spacing Standard

- Beyond 30 feet from structures grass should not exceed four inches in height. In situations where these fuels are isolated from other fuels or where necessary to stabilize soil, grasses may reach a height of 18 inches.
- Clearance between shrubs should be 4 to 40 feet depending on the slope of the land and size and type of vegetation. Check the chart below for an estimation of clearance distance. Any questions regarding requirements for a specific property should be addressed to your local fire official.

Minimum Horizontal Spacing Guidelines		
Slope	Shrubs, Ground Covers & Other Ornamental Plants Space required between clumps of ground cover, plants, bushes, shrubs, seedlings or sapling trees, etc.	Trees Space required between tree canopies or groups of trees
Flat or gentle slope (0% to 20%)	2 times the height of the plant	10 feet
Moderate slope (20% to 40%)	4 times the height of the plant	20 feet
Steep slope (greater than 40%)	6 times the height of the plant	30 feet

PRC §4291. (a) A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining a mountainous area, forest covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do all of the following:

- (1) Maintain defensible space of 100 feet from each side and from the front and rear of the structure, but not beyond the property line except as provided in paragraph (2). The amount of fuel modification necessary shall take into account the flammability of the structure as affected by building material, building standards, location, and type of vegetation. Fuels shall be maintained in a condition so that a wildfire burning under average weather conditions would be unlikely to ignite the structure. This paragraph does not apply to single specimens of trees or other vegetation that are well-pruned and maintained so as to effectively manage fuels and not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from other nearby vegetation to a structure or from a structure to other nearby vegetation. The intensity of fuels management may vary within the 100-foot perimeter of the structure, the most intense being within the first 30 feet around the structure. Consistent with fuels management objectives, steps should be taken to minimize erosion. For the purposes of this paragraph, "fuel" means any combustible material, including petroleum-based products and wildland fuels.
- (2) A greater distance than that required under paragraph (1) may be required by state law, local ordinance, rule, or regulation. Clearance beyond the property line may only be required if the state law, local ordinance, rule, or regulation includes findings that the clearing is necessary to significantly reduce the risk of transmission of flame or heat sufficient to ignite the structure, and there is no other feasible mitigation measure possible to reduce the risk of ignition or spread of wildfire to the structure. Clearance on adjacent property shall only be conducted following written consent by the adjacent landowner.
- (3) An insurance company that insures an occupied dwelling or occupied structure may require a greater distance than that required under paragraph (1) if a fire expert, designated by the director, provides findings that the clearing is necessary to significantly reduce the risk of transmission of flame or heat sufficient to ignite the structure, and there is no other feasible mitigation measure possible to reduce the risk of ignition or spread of wildfire to the structure. The greater distance may not be beyond the property line unless allowed by state law, local ordinance, rule, or regulation.
- (4) Remove that portion of a tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.
- (5) Maintain a tree, shrub, or other plant adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.
- (6) Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other vegetative materials.

PRC §4119. The department, or its duly authorized agent, shall enforce the state forest and fire laws. The department may inspect all properties, except the interior of dwellings, subject to the state forest and fire laws, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with such laws.

For additional information on how to comply with defensible space clearance requirements, please visit:

WWW.FIRE.CA.GOV