



# FIRE PREVENTION STANDARD

## FUEL MITIGATION AND EXTERIOR HAZARD ABATEMENT

### SCOPE

This standard applies to the Fuel Mitigation and Exterior Hazard Abatement requirements as outlined in Ordinance 2023-38.

### STANDARD

#### Abatement of Parcels One Acre or Less

1. Parcels one acre or less shall require complete 100% abatement to achieve defensible space around all structures. This can be achieved through landscaping or by mowing, discing and/or spraying dry brush or native grasses to a height of 3 inches or less.  
**EXCEPTION:** Individual property owners with landlocked lots may contact the Community Risk Reduction Division regarding appropriate abatement requirements prior to the compliance date. Landlocked is defined as a parcel of real property which has no access or egress (entry or exit) to a public street and cannot be reached except by crossing another property.
2. All combustible materials stored outside shall be neatly stacked away from all structures and have all combustible growth cleared 15 feet around it (eg, wood piles).
3. The Fire District may require modification to the minimum abatement standards on properties due to challenges with terrain, land use, growth, location, or the fire history of the area.
4. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to preclude the Fire Chief from requiring more than the minimum specific requirements set forth above when the Fire Chief determines that conditions exist which necessitate greater Fire Protection measures.

## **Abatement of Parcels Greater than One Acre**

1. All parcels shall provide 100 feet of defensible space around all structures. This can be achieved through landscaping or by mowing, discing, and/or spraying dry brush or native grasses to a height of 3 inches or less.
2. Parcels shall provide 15-foot disc or bladed fuel breaks along the perimeter of the property. A fuel break is a continuous strip of land upon and from which all rubbish, weeds, grass or other growth that could be expected to burn has been abated or otherwise removed in order to prevent extension of fire from one area to another.  
**EXCEPTION:** Mowed fuel breaks are only acceptable if an area cannot be discussed due to terrain or other factors. Mowed fuel break should be maintained at a minimum height of 3 inches and a minimum width of 60 feet.
3. Parcels 10 acres or more shall provide a 15-foot cross break to divide the parcel into approximately 5-acre sections. A cross break is a fuel break that divides up the parcel with a continuous strip of land that is disced or bladed.  
**EXCEPTION:** Parcels that are used for agricultural purposes may contact the Community Risk Reduction Division to request modifications to this requirement.
4. All combustible materials stored outside shall be neatly stacked away from all structures and have all combustible growth cleared 15 feet around it (eg, wood piles).
5. The Fire District may require modification to the minimum abatement standards on properties due to challenges with terrain, land use, growth, location, or the fire history of the area.
6. Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to preclude the Fire Chief from requiring more than the minimum specific requirements set forth above when the Fire Chief determines that conditions exist which necessitate greater Fire Protection measures.

## **Trees – All Properties**

1. Remove from the property all dead trees within 100 feet of all structures.
2. Limb-up trees within 100 feet of all structures so that no leafy foliage, twigs, or branches are within 5-feet from the ground.
3. Remove any portion of a tree which extends within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe.
4. Keep all trees adjacent to or overhanging all structures free of dead limbs, branches, and other combustible matter.
5. Maintain 5 feet of vertical clearance between roof surfaces and portions of trees overhanging all structures, and keep roofs free of leaves, needles, twigs, and other combustible matter.

## **Fire Department Access Roads**

1. Abate 10 feet on both sides of all public or private roadways and driveways on and adjacent to the parcel.
2. Maintain unobstructed horizontal clearance of not less than the required width of the access road.
3. Maintain an unobstructed vertical clearance of not less than 13'6" above all roadways. This shall include tree canopies, awnings, and trellises.
4. Ensure the property address numbers are clearly visible from the street.