

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



SAN LUIS OBISPO UNIT SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FIRE



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LOS OSOS FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT

CAL FIRE/SLO County Fire Station 15 - South Bay wants to advise Los Osos residents and property owners that the Annual Fire Hazard Reduction Abatement Deadline is coming soon.

All properties within the Los Osos Community Services District containing hazardous vegetation and other flammable materials, that constitute a public nuisance, shall be abated as per LOCSO Fire Code, Health and Safety Code and Public Resources Code. Hazardous weeds are defined by the California Health and Safety Code, Section 14875, as dry grass, brush, poison oak, rubbish, or other flammable material that creates a fire hazard.

During the first week of June, all properties within the District boundaries will be inspected for fire hazards..

Failure to comply with the Los Osos Fire Hazard Reduction Abatement deadline of June 1, 2018 could result in a citation being issued per state law and local fire safety ordinance.

This abatement requirement does not apply to single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery, or similar plants, such as ice plant, which are used as ground cover, provided that they do not form means of rapidly transmitting fire from the native growth to any structure. Owners that have had their parcel designated as protected habitat by the Fish and Wildlife Service are exempt, but must provide an alternate method of protecting structures from fire.

The acceptable methods of fire hazard reduction are:

- To mow grasses and small shrubs to a height of not more than 4 inches;
- To cut dead brush and thin brush patches and remove it by hauling or chipping over a scattered area;
- To haul other flammable materials, trash, and debris to a landfill.

Disking and burning are no longer environmentally acceptable methods of abatement.

Small parcels with less than 75' of road frontage or less than 10,000 square feet of area must have all flammable vegetation cut or removed within the property boundaries.

Large parcels with more than 75' of road frontage or more than 10,000 square feet are not required to clear the entire lot. They are required to clear a 30' wide firebreak around all buildings and insert swaths and borders along roadways.

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