



Vacaville Fire Department Prevention Bureau

650 Merchant St. Vacaville, CA 95688

(707)-449-5693

CodeEnforcement@cityofvacaville.com

www.cityofvacaville.gov

Courtesy Weed Abatement Notice

Date: April 1, 2024

California Fire Code Section 304.1.2.1 and Vacaville Municipal Code Chapter 8.04

PLEASE HELP THE CITY REDUCE DAMAGE FROM ANY DEVASTATING WILDLAND FIRES.

- NOTE: 1. Exceptions to the requirements of CFC Section 304.1.2.1 may only be made by the Fire Chief or his or her designee.
2. The Fire Chief or his or her designee may also require additional abatement measures to those listed below when climatic, geological, or topographical conditions warrant such additional measures.

The City of Vacaville ("City") experiences hot and dry weather which creates a fire hazard when vegetation dries out and becomes extremely flammable. Many devastating fires can be prevented with a proper weed abatement program. Vacaville has adopted California Fire Code ("CFC") Section 304.1.2.1 in Section 15.20.271.040.G and Section 8.04.060 of the Vacaville Municipal Code, requiring the removal of dry vegetation, weeds, rubbish, and other fire hazards. The City's Code Enforcement Division will begin conducting Weed Abatement inspection(s) starting on June 1, 2024 to ensure all dry vegetation, weeds, rubbish and other fire hazards have been removed from your property in accordance with CFC Section 304.1.2.1 (as it has been amended and adopted by the City). If your property is not in compliance by June 1, 2024 the City has the authority to abate the violations at the property owner's expense. Costs and fines for abatement may become a lien or special assessment upon the property and include: direct contractor expenses, the City's administrative costs, expenses and time incurred in compelling you to correct the violations, and monetary fines of \$100 for the first day, \$500 for the second day, and \$1,000 for the third and each subsequent day¹ that your property remains in violation of CFC Section 304.1.2.1.

IF YOU NO LONGER OWN THIS PROPERTY,

PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (707)-449-5693 SO THAT WE CAN UPDATE OUR RECORDS

DUE TO RE-GROWTH, ADDITIONAL ABATEMENTS MAY BE NECESSARY DURING THE YEAR.
ADDITIONALLY, IF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT DEEMS YOUR PROPERTY AN IMMEDIATE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD, YOU COULD BE REQUIRED TO ABATE YOUR PROPERTY PRIOR TO THE JUNE 1st DEADLINE.

If you are interested in obtaining further information regarding weed abatement standards, please call our office at (707) 449-5693,

Monday through Thursday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., or visit www.codepublishing.com/CA/Vacaville.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

You can avoid these costs and fines by ensuring your property is in compliance by **June 1, 2024**.

FOR MINIMUM LOT CLEARING REQUIREMENTS SEE NEXT PAGE

¹ VMC § 1.28.120.B

MINIMUM LOT CLEARING REQUIREMENTS

Generally, the following requirements include, but are not limited to, mowing, disking, weed eating, and handwork to reduce the weeds/vegetation to less than 4 inches *in height* along sidewalks, fences, trees and in high traffic areas.

During windy and warm days, especially when humidity is below 30 %, do not mow or disc after 10:00 A.M.

If a wind event occurs, do not mow or disc.

Fires can be started by mowing or disking during high-risk fire weather conditions.

Please remember to have an adequate fire extinguisher available to extinguish any accidental fires.

REQUIREMENTS BY LOT SIZE

< 1 ACRE

PROPERTY ONE (1) ACRE IN SIZE OR LESS

1. All weeds shall be abated.
2. All weeds around fence lines, sidewalks, and other objects shall be removed.
3. Trees or branches that are within ten feet (10') of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10') or more of clearance.***
4. Tree branches located within one hundred feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be pruned to be not less than six feet (6') from the ground.
5. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance.

1 – 5 ACRES

PROPERTY OVER ONE (1) ACRE TO FIVE (5) ACRES IN SIZE

1. A thirty foot (30') firebreak around the perimeter of the property shall be maintained.
2. All weeds around fence lines, sidewalks, and other objects shall be removed.
3. There shall be not less than one hundred feet (100') of clearance around all structures and other improvements.***
4. Disking (two or more times) may be required to a depth of six to ten inches (6"-10") if the soil does not properly mix with the removed weeds.
5. Trees or branches that are within ten feet (10') of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10') or more of clearance.***
6. Tree branches located within one hundred feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be pruned to be not less than six feet (6') from the ground.
7. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance

> 5 ACRES

PROPERTY OVER FIVE (5) ACRES IN SIZE

1. There shall be not less than a thirty foot (30') wide firebreak around the perimeter and a thirty foot (30') wide firebreak at the center of the property.
2. There shall be not less than one hundred feet (100') of clearance around all structures and other improvements.***
3. Trees or branches located within ten feet (10') of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10") or more of clearance.***
4. Tree branches located within one hundred feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be removed or pruned to be not less than six feet (6') from the ground.
5. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance

PRIVATELY OWNED EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS AREAS (EVA)

1. All weeds shall be abated at least thirty feet (30') away from the fence or one hundred feet (100') from all structures.
2. All vegetation & debris encroaching on an EVA shall be cleared and removed.
3. All tree branches hanging over an EVA shall be pruned to no less than fourteen feet (14') above the ground.
4. All weeds around fence lines, sidewalks, and other objects shall be removed.
5. Tree branches located within 100 feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be pruned to be not less than six feet (6') from the ground.
6. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance.

HILLSIDE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

1. There shall be not less than one hundred feet (100') of clearance around all structures and other improvements.***
2. All weeds around fence lines, sidewalks, and other objects shall be removed.
3. Trees and branches located within ten feet (10') of a chimney or stovepipe shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10') or more of clearance.***
4. Tree branches located within one hundred feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be removed or pruned to be not less than six feet (6') from the ground.
5. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance.

UNCULTIVATED AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY- Only if there is not a current crop growing on the property.

1. There shall be not less than a thirty foot (30') wide firebreak around the perimeter and a thirty foot (30') wide firebreak at the center of the property.
2. There shall be not less than one hundred feet (100') of clearance around all structures and other improvements.***
3. Trees and branches located within ten feet (10') of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10') or more of clearance.***
4. Tree branches located within one hundred feet (100') of a structure or improvement shall be removed or pruned to provide ten feet (10') or more of clearance.
5. Tanks shall have not less than thirty feet (30') of clearance.

*** California Public Resources Code Section 4291