



NEWS RELEASE

City of Martinez
Communications Office
925.372.3505
525 Henrietta Street

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE #05.10.2017

Subject: City of Martinez Weed Abatement Standards

Contact: Don Salts, Deputy Public Works Director, (925) 372-3528

MARTINEZ – While the City of Martinez annually completes weed abatement in open space and other areas in anticipation of the summer months ahead, the City would like to remind its residents and property owners of the minimum Weed Abatement Standards required by Contra Costa County Fire District.

Many properties in Martinez and the surrounding areas have recently received notices by the Contra Costa County Fire District that Weed Abatement Standards are in effect. Further, the Fire District also sends notices to the property owners advising that it is the owner's responsibility to meet Fire District requirements.

The primary purpose of the Fire District's Exterior Hazard Division is to limit potential sources of fuel for fire through the abatement of combustible rubbish and vegetation. While the Fire District's efforts to prevent fires are extensive, the actions taken by the owner before wildfires occur are critical. Property owners need to be aware of the need for defensible space, which is the buffer that exists between the home/structure by creating a natural and landscaped area specifically designed to reduce fire danger.

Weed Abatement

The Contra Costa County Fire Protection District established minimum standards for weed abatement ([see attached](#)). "Weeds" are all wild plants growing upon the streets or private property within a jurisdiction. It includes sagebrush, chaparral (chamise, coyote brush, greasewood, broom brush, buckwheat), dry grass, stubble, brush, litter, or other flammable materials which endanger the public safety by creating a fire hazard.

Property owners are ultimately responsible for managing their own vegetation to meet Fire District requirements. As a public service, the Fire District offers lists of area contractors who perform vegetation management work such as mowing, discing, and "weed-eating." The Fire District does not endorse contractors nor imply approval of the quality of work performed.

2017 Weed Abatement Deadlines

East County and Central County-May 26, 2017 (Includes the following communities: Antioch, Bay Point, Clayton, Clyde, Concord, Lafayette, Martinez, Pacheco, Pleasant Hill and Walnut Creek)

Weed Abatement Contractor Lists

Eastern Division: <http://www.cccfpd.org/pdfs/WA-25-EContractors-Lis-17.pdf>

Central Division: <http://www.cccfpd.org/pdfs/WA-24-CContractors-List-17.pdf>

Western Division: <http://www.cccfpd.org/pdfs/WA-26-WContractors-List-17.pdf>

Property owners are ultimately responsible to verify abatement meets Fire District requirements.

For more information regarding Weed Abatement, please contact Don Salts, Deputy Public Works Director, (925) 372-3528.

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