



West Plainfield Fire Protection District

24901 County Road 95, Davis, CA 95616

(530) 756-0212

April 2023

Owner / Resident / Business Located Within West Plainfield Fire Protection District

It is the West Plainfield Fire Department's desire to provide as much protection of your home, business and property as we can, but your cooperation is needed. The fire department is primarily a volunteer agency and your efforts in weed and vegetation management will assist us provide maximum effort during the critical period needed to save structures and property in the event of a fire.

The West Plainfield Fire Protection District has adopted a weed abatement and fire prevention program to provide guidance with respect to fire prevention measures required of each property owner in the District. These guidelines have been adopted for your protection as well as the protection of neighboring properties.

Inspections are conducted year-round, with the main enforcement efforts occurring after the rainy season each year. After inspection, if necessary, an abatement notice of non-compliance will be issued. Continued non-compliance may require that the West Plainfield Fire Protection District employ a contractor to remove the vegetation or rubbish at your expense.

It is your responsibility, as owner or occupant, to maintain a defensible space around the property by removal of combustible materials that may pose a danger in the event of a fire on the subject property or from adjacent property (PCR § 4291), including all buildings and/or structures located thereon. You shall:

1. Maintain a defensible space 100 feet around any structure, including barns, sheds and storage buildings. A defensible space means the removal of dead / dry grasses, brush, rubbish, limbs and other non-regulated vegetation growth.
2. Trim tree limbs at least 4 feet above ground to prevent fire igniting the trees, especially conifer and eucalyptus trees. Clear fallen leaves, bark and branches.
3. Clear dead / dry grasses, brush, rubbish, limbs and other non-regulated vegetation growth a minimum of 10 feet back from frontage roads, including roadside ditches. This area is often the fire origin due to ignition by smoking materials or faulty equipment.
4. If vacant property is less than five acres, disk or mow all non-regulated vegetation growth. If property is greater than five acres, a fire break of 30 feet wide must be maintained on all sides by disking or clearing the ground.
5. Remove tree limbs within 10 feet of the outlet of a chimney or stovepipe. Chimneys and stovepipes must have a spark guard screen in place. Remove dead leaves and branches from the roof.
6. When operating mowers or tractors, spark arrest mufflers must be installed. Maintain an

Owner / Resident / Business Located Within West Plainfield Fire Protection District

April 2023

Page 2

emergency water supply to extinguish any fire that might result from abatement operations.

7. Remove all vegetation at least 10 feet on all sides of any fuel storage container, including propane tanks (LPG Code). Make sure all flammable liquid containers are marked with a visible warning label.

NOTE: The weed abatement program does not apply to "single specimens of trees (orchard) 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 ..." (PRC § 4291)

While performing inspection Fire Department personnel will also be looking for the following:

1. That your address is properly posted: reflective 3 inches (minimum; 4 inches preferable) numbers at the end of your driveway, visible from both directions of travel; or, if the front of your property is not visible from the roadway, then on the County Road at the point you turn off the County Road to access your property.
2. That we have unobstructed access to your property: driveway 20 feet wide (ideal for existing; required for new construction and some remodels) and clear of growth and/or debris, including overhanging growth.
3. That your rural burn piles do not exceed the maximum 4-foot x 6-foot pile as allowed by the Yolo Solano Air Quality Management District (<https://www.ysaqmd.org/rulescompliance/burning/rural/>) and that they are located in such a location as to not allow fire spread to structures, etc.

If you have any questions, please contact the Fire Department at (530) 756-0212. If you would like us to perform an inspection, you may call that same number.

Thank you,



CHERIE RITA
Fire Chief

References:

California Health and Safety Code (H&S Code) §§ 13879 and 14875, et seq.

"... vegetation growing upon streets, sidewalks, or private property in any county, including any fire protection district ...: (a) vegetation that bears seeds of a downy or wingy nature, (b) vegetation that is not pruned or is otherwise neglected so as to attain such large growth as to become, when dry, a fire menace to adjacent

improved property, (c) vegetation that is otherwise noxious or dangerous, (d) poison oak and poison ivy when the conditions of growth are such as to constitute a menace to the public health, (e) dry grass, stubble, brush, litter, or other flammable material which endangers the public safety by creating a fire hazard in an urbanized portion of an unincorporated area which has been zoned for single and multiple residence purposes."

California Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4291

"A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining ... or land that is covered with flammable material ..."

NFPA 58 § 6.5.3.3 (LPG Code)

"Combustible materials shall not accumulate or be stored within 10 feet (3 m) of a container."