



## West Plainfield Fire Department

24901 County Road 95 Davis, CA 95616 (530) 756 - 0212

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### Owner/Occupant Residence/Business Located Within West Plainfield Fire Protection District

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 West Plainfield Fire Protection District. Reference: 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." NFPA 58 § 6.5.3.3 (LPG Code) "Combustible materials shall not accumulate or be stored within 10 feet (3 m) of a container."

It is your responsibility as an owner/resident/occupant, to maintain a defensible space around the property, including all buildings/structures located thereon, by removal of combustible materials that may pose a danger in the event of a fire on the subject property or from adjacent property. Reference: Public Resources Code § 4291 (PRC) "A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining ... land that is covered with flammable material ..."

In addition to the above our Fire District resolution requires the following additional actions be taken by the owner/resident/occupant:

1. Clean dead/dry vegetation a minimum of 10 feet back from frontage roads (this includes clearing ditch lines and graded banks as authorized by this program). This area is often the fire origin due to ignition by smoking materials or faulty equipment.
2. If vacant property is less than five acres, disk or mow all non-regulated vegetation growth. If vacant 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.
3. Chimneys and stovepipes must have a spark guard screen in place.
4. When operating mowers or tractors (including lawn tractors), spark arrest mufflers must be installed. Maintain an emergency water supply to extinguish any fire that might result from abatement operations. Be aware that most lawn tractors are not made for cutting tall grass as it can impede airflow and allow overheating of the lawn tractor, resulting in a fire.
5. Remove all vegetation at least 10 feet on all sides of any fuel storage container, including propane tanks. Make sure all flammable liquid containers are marked with a visible warning label.

NOTE: the weed abatement and prevention program does not apply to "single specimens of trees



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(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 ..." Reference: Public Resource Code §4291(a)(1).

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/rules-compliance/burning/rural/>) and that they are located in such a location as to not allow fire spread to structures, etc.

This program has been adopted for your protection as well the protection of neighboring properties. This is a year-round program. Though it is a year-round program, annual inspections begin in March each year. If your property is found to be non-compliant, you will receive an Abatement Notice. Non-compliance may require that the West Plainfield Fire Protection District employ a contractor to remove the vegetation or rubbish at your expense.

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 also call that number.

It is our desire to provide as much protection of your home and property as we can, but your cooperation is needed. The fire department is primarily a volunteer agency and may not be able to provide maximum effort in the event of a fire during the critical period needed to save structures and property.

Thank you,

Chief Cherie Rita  
Fire Chief  
West Plainfield Fire Department