



CARPINTERIA - SUMMERLAND

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE TO ABATE HAZARDOUS VEGETATION June 15th deadline

Once again, as we enter the warmer, dryer months of spring, the Carpinteria-Summerland Fire Protection District is advising homeowners living in the Wildland Urban Interface to clear flammable vegetation from around their residences. It is important that all residents living in these areas be aware of the significant risk to their lives and homes posed by wild fires. Maintaining a "defensible / survivable space" around your home, is of the utmost importance in safeguarding you, your home, firefighters and the community from the ravages of a wild fire.

Beginning in the month of April, our firefighters renew their annual assessment of the wild land fire danger to our community. Driving through our urban interface areas, firefighters identify parcels needing abatement work and also offer printed information on creating a defensible space to the residents. The **2007 California Fire Code as amended requires owners and/or occupants to create 100' of Defensible Space around their homes and buildings.**

As a homeowner / resident you are encouraged to take personal responsibility and begin the abatement work now, paying particular attention to the first 30-feet of clearance surrounding your home where your efforts should be to create a "lean and green" fire resistive environment. The remaining 70-feet of clearance should be accomplished by vegetation modification, thinning out, trimming up thick heavy vegetation and creating a mosaic pattern where the continuity of vegetation is broken up into patches. **Note:** in some instances you may not have 100-feet to your property line. In those instances, your obligation is to complete the work up to the property line. In an ideal situation, if you can work with your adjoining property owner in a cooperative way to get the 100-foot clearance, that is a benefit to both of you. Additionally, check your driveway for proper clearance for fire equipment, both width (10-feet either side) and height (13' 6") of vegetation. You may need to trim back hedges and low hanging branches that obstruct clear access to your property.

Refer to the accompanying document, "**Why 100 feet?**" as a guide for creating defensible space on your property. More information may be found at www.carpfire.com, and at www.fire.ca.gov, for "Defensible Space Guidelines".

For all questions concerning this issue, please contact Fire Prevention Officer, Rolf Larsen at (805) 684-4591.

Sincerely,

Michael Mingee, Fire Chief