



# Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

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**Board of Directors**  
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## NOTICE TO ABATE FIRE HAZARDS

**(This is not a notice to grade your property)**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that all lot(s) or parcel(s) of land within the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District, California, shall be required to be abated of all fire hazards or conditions that may become a fire hazard in compliance with Fire District Vegetation Management Ordinance 2019-02 and the 2020 County of San Diego Consolidated Fire Code (outlined in enclosed “Hazard Abatement Requirements”).

Property owners or property managers shall be responsible for year-round maintenance of:

- Proper defensible space around any structure.
- Proper vegetation maintenance within 20 feet of a public or private road by thinning brush, native vegetation, and cutting annual grasses. Grasses and weeds shall be no taller than 4” in height. Trees shall be limbed up a minimum of 6 feet above the shrub height and have a 13’6” vertical clearance adjacent to a roadway.
- Annual weeds and grasses are required to be abated as soon as they mature and start to turn brown, but no later than **May 20, 2020**, whichever occurs first.

Rancho Santa Fe Fire Prevention Specialists will be making routine hazard abatement inspections over the course of the spring and summer. Owners of non-compliant properties will receive notification(s) to abate such hazards. If the hazard has not been abated by the owner in the allowed timeframe, the property will be subject to the District’s *Forced Abatement Process*. The cost of abatement shall constitute a special assessment against the respective parcel of land. The respective assessment shall include, but is not limited to, the cost of the abatement, a Fire District administrative fee, and if applicable, reasonable attorneys’ fees and other costs incurred by the District to enforce such abatement. Property owners or managers are strongly urged to arrange for the clearing of their own parcels, as the above requirements are strictly enforced. If your property is forcibly abated, the cost will be much higher than if you choose to abate the property yourself or commercially.

***If your property is in compliance, you can disregard this notice. If you have questions about property compliance or if you believe you have received this notice in error, please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at (858) 756-5971.***

### **WARNING – ENVIRONMENTALLY PROTECTED OPEN SPACE, PLANT(S) OR ANIMAL SPECIES**

Clearing of vegetation as required by this letter on property(s) that contains threatened or endangered species is subject to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). Deliberate taking, clearing or removal beyond that specifically allowed by this notice and/or the MOU is not authorized and may be in violation of the State and Federal Endangered Species Act. Please contact the fire district with questions about compliance with the MOU and this notice. You should also contact USFWS at (760) 431-9440 or CDFG (858) 467-4201 if you have been notified that you have a threatened or endangered species on your property.