

San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District

2850 Via Orange Way, Spring Valley, CA 91978

(619) 670-0500 info@sanmiguelfire.org

Standard of Abatement

1. Trash, rubbish, debris, and other combustible materials, which create a fire or safety hazard, must be removed from the property.

2. Properties of one (1) acre or less shall be cleared in their entirety.

3. Properties larger than one (1) acre:

Shall have a minimum of fifty feet (50') of clearance from the property lines that abut improved properties.

Shall have a minimum of one hundred feet (100') of clearance from structures (both your structures and your neighbors' structures).

Note: Improved property means any property upon which there is a habitable structure for humans or animals.

4. Roadways and/or driveways shall have a minimum of ten feet (10') of clearance on each side of, and to a height of thirteen and one-half feet (13½'), above the road and/or driveway surface.

5. Sloped properties (10% grade or greater) may require greater clearance on the down slope.

6. Distances shall be measured in a horizontal plane.

7. Clearance Requirements:

- Clearance of properties shall be accomplished by methods that will not disturb native soil or rootstock. Native chaparral may be thinned as approved by the Fire District. Cuttings may be mulched and left on top of the soil to a maximum depth of six (6) inches or may be hauled to an approved County landfill site.

- Mature trees must be trimmed to six (6) feet above the ground, or as approved by the Fire District, and must be cut back at least ten (10) feet from chimneys. All leaves, bark, and other debris must be removed from the ground and roof.

- These abatement standards shall not be construed to authorize grading which does not comply with the San Diego County regulations regarding grading, clearing, and watercourses found in Division 7 of Title 8 of the San Diego County Code.

Note: Property owners who have been notified of the existence of a rare, threatened, or endangered plants on the property to be cleared must notify the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at least 10 days in advance of undertaking the vegetation clearance. If the property owner is aware of any state or federally listed species on the property, then the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife should be notified prior to abatement. If a state or federal candidate or protected species is killed, injured, or captured, the property owner shall report this information to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. If you suspect you may have a species of Coastal Sage or known Gnatcatcher habitat on your property or area in question, a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may be required prior to abatement.