



Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Office of the Fire Marshal

EXTERIOR WILDFIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT REQUIREMENTS

All property owners are required to comply with exterior hazard requirements.
It's YOUR responsibility, and it's the LAW.



All requirements shall be maintained year-round, with the exception of cutting grasses and weeds to a height of 3 inches or less no later than June 1 of every year.

ZONE 0. The Ember Resistant Zone or Home Ignition Zone extends from 0 to 5 feet from any structure, attached deck, or outbuilding on the parcel. Zone 0 requires the most stringent wildfire fuel reduction. This Zone is designed to prevent fire or embers from igniting materials that can spread to the structure.

ZONE 1. The Lean, Clean, and Green Zone extends from 5 feet to 30 feet from any structure or attached deck.

ZONE 2. The Reduced Fuel Zone extends from 30 feet to 100 feet from any structure or attached deck.

THESE REQUIREMENTS ARE TO BE COMPLETED AND MAINTAINED YEAR-ROUND**

MOFD ORDINANCE 23-03 FUEL MITIGATION & EXTERIOR HAZARDS REQUIRES:

ZONE 0: (0-5 feet)

- Remove all combustible ground cover, such as mulch and bark, within 2 feet of all structures.
- Create a 1-foot vertical clearance from foliage to ground for any plants within 2 feet of the structure.
- Remove ALL dead or dying trees and/or rubbish.
- Remove ALL non-irrigated brush.
- Remove or cut grasses and weeds to a height of less than 3 inches or less. ****Must be cut no later than June 1 of every year.**
- Remove any Monterey Pine or Eucalyptus located within 5 feet of a structure or attached decks.
- Remove all tree branches that are within 6 vertical feet of the roof.
- Trim trees to create 10 feet of clearance from the chimney outlet.
- Remove ALL dead or combustible material from trees or any other plantings.
- Remove all material, such as branches, leaves, and needles, from the roof and gutters. This needs to be redone on a periodic basis.
- Trim trees to create 6 feet of vertical spacing between branches or foliage and ground.

ZONE 1: (5-30 feet)

- Remove ALL dead or dying trees and/or rubbish.
- Remove or cut grasses and weeds to a height of less than 3 inches or less. ****Must be cut no later than June 1 of every year.**
- Trim trees to create 6 feet of vertical spacing between branches or foliage and ground.
- Remove ALL non-irrigated brush.
- Maintain 10 feet of bare mineral soil around Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks, firewood, lumber, or other Combustible Material.

ZONE 2: (30-100 feet)

- Remove ALL dead or dying trees and/or rubbish.
- Remove or cut grasses and weeds to a height of less than 3 inches or less. ****Must be cut no later than June 1 of every year.**
- Trim trees to create 6 feet of vertical spacing between branches or foliage and ground.
- Remove ALL non-irrigated brush.
- Coverings over a pile of lumber or firewood must be constructed or made of fire-resistant material.
- Maintain 10 feet of bare mineral soil around liquid propane gas (LPG) storage tanks, firewood, lumber, or other combustible material.

***Annual Grasses and Weeds must be cut to 3 inches or less no later than June 1 of every year.**

FENCES

- No screen, fence, or other structure made of bark, mulch, or wood chips is allowed within 100 feet of a Structure or within 10 feet of the paved edge of the road.

ROADSIDE VEGETATION

- Maintain tree foliage, branches, and trunks to provide a minimum 15-foot vertical clearance above the entire roadway or driveway.
- Remove all Juniper and Bamboo from within 10 feet of the roadway or driveway.
- Remove any hazardous vegetation located within 3 horizontal feet of the roadway.

FUEL BREAK MOFD ORDINANCE 23-08 APPLIES TO:

PARCELS OF 1 ACRE OR LESS: Require the entire parcel to be maintained.

PARCELS OVER 1 ACRE: A Fuel Break of 100 feet shall be created and maintained around the entire perimeter of a parcel over 1 acre in size.

FUEL BREAKS STANDARDS

- Grasses and weeds cut to less than 3".
- Non-irrigated brush should be removed in such a way that the minimum space between shrubs is as follows:
 - a. On flat or mild slopes (less than 20%): Two times the height of the shrub
 - b. On mild to moderate slopes (20-40%): Four times the height of the shrub
 - c. On moderate to steep slopes (greater than 40%): Six times the height of the shrub.
- Removal of all Combustible Material.
- Removal of dead, diseased, or dying trees.
- Trim trees to create 6 feet of vertical spacing between branches or foliage and ground.

WHEN CONDUCTING FUEL MITIGATION AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE WORK, THE FOLLOWING STANDARDS ARE TO BE APPLIED:

1. The volume and arrangement of vegetation shall be managed to limit fire intensity, fire severity, rate of spread, crown fire potential, and/or ember production.
2. The work shall be performed using the most ecological and site-appropriate treatment options, such as, but not limited to, prescribed burning, manual treatment, mechanical treatment, prescribed herbivory, and targeted ground application of herbicides.
3. The work shall not impact any environmental resources of hazardous or critical concern where designated, precisely mapped, and officially adopted pursuant to law by federal, state, or local agencies. This includes, but is not limited to, designated historic resources and state scenic highways.
4. The work shall be conducted in a manner to avoid (1) the taking of endangered, rare, or threatened plant or animal species, (2) causing significant erosion and sedimentation of surface waters, and (3) removing healthy, mature, scenic trees, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act and Fish and Game Code.

If you plan on conducting work near, adjacent to, or within any creek, channel, stream, or watercourse, or if you believe your property may contain habitat for sensitive species, please contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) at email - AskBDR@wildlife.ca.gov and/or by phone - (707) 428-2002; prior to initiating any activities associated with this notice. Please copy and inform MOFD when contacting CDFW.



Moraga-Orinda Fire District Home Hardening Grant and Wildfire Safety Opportunities



Wildfire Safety Home Assessment Request- This is a free service provided by the Moraga-Orinda Fire District's volunteer Fire Adapted Community Ambassadors. We will meet you at your home and walk-through wildfire safety measures. www.mofd.org/FAC-A



Free Ember-Resistant Vent Screens- MOFD will provide free ember resistant vent screening for your home's eve and foundation vents. Reduce the chances of a flying embers igniting flammable materials in your attic and crawl space. www.mofd.org/ember-resistant-vents



Free Gutter Guard- MOFD will provide free stainless-steel guards that are designed to minimize the accumulation of leaves and debris that will become combustible material in the dry months. Having Gutter coverings can protect your home from damage due to flying embers in the fire season. They will also help prevent your gutters from clogging with leaves and reduce the need for maintenance during the rainy season. www.mofd.org/gutter-guards



MOFD and City of Orinda Free Brush Chipping Service- If you have excess vegetation that's been cut and stacked at the curb we'll come and chip it for you. It is best if several homes on a block schedule these free chipping services at the same time. Use the link below or the QR code to access the request form. www.mofd.org/chipper-program



MOFD Broom Puller Loan Program- The fire district has a "broom puller" lending program that can be used for larger plants and community broom pulling events. French broom is a fast-growing shrub that can quickly dominate an area, forming dense stands that out compete native vegetation. French broom is also highly flammable, and its accumulation can increase fire risk in the wildland urban interface zone. In addition, French broom is a prolific seed producer, and its seeds can remain viable in the soil for decades, allowing it to persist and spread over time. www.mofd.org/broom-puller