

San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District

Standard of Abatement

1. Trash, rubbish, debris and other combustible materials, which create a fire hazard, must be removed from the property and properly disposed of.
2. Properties that are abutting improved properties shall maintain a minimum of fifty feet (50') of clearance at the property lines abutting the improved properties. Distance shall be measured in a horizontal plane.
3. Improved properties of one (1) acre or less shall be cleared in their entirety.
4. Flat properties of more than one (1) acre shall have a minimum of one hundred feet (100') clearance from structures. Distance shall be measured in a horizontal plane.
5. Sloped properties (10% grade or greater) may require greater clearance on the down slope. The one hundred feet (100') distance shall be measured in a horizontal plane.
6. Roadways and/or driveways shall be cleared to at least the width of the roadway plus ten feet (10') on each side, and to a height of thirteen and one-half feet (13½') above the road surface.
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: Land owners who have been notified of the existence of a rare, threatened, or endangered plant on the property to be cleared must notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at least 10 days in advance of undertaking the vegetation clearance. If the landowner is aware of any state or federal 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 species is killed, injured and captured, the landowner shall report this information to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 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 may be required prior to fuel clearing.