

Annual Brush Clearance & Safety Guide



COMMON COMBUSTIBLE VEGETATION / FIRE HAZARDS



DEAD SHRUBBERY



CASTOR BEAN PLANT



DEAD PALM FRONDS



CHAPARRAL



ARUNDO



CALIFORNIA TOBACCO PLANT



DISCARDED TREE LIMBS/REFUSE



TUMBLEWEEDS (GREEN OR DEAD)

SELF INSPECTION CHECKLIST

- Entire property is maintained free of combustible materials/fire hazards year-round.
- Cut all grass and weeds down to three (3) inches or less on 100% of your property.
- Trees eighteen (18) feet and higher trim lower branches to clear six (6) feet from the ground.
- Remove all dead and dying trees, dead branches and bushes.
- Trim tree branches ten (10) feet away from chimneys.
- Remove dead leaves and pine needles from rooftops and gutters.
- Clear a minimum of three (3) feet from the edge of road.
- Trim overhanging tree branches from all roadways up to a minimum of thirteen (13) feet and six (6) inches above the road surface to allow access for emergency vehicles.
- Properly dispose of all bagged and cut materials or chip and spread all materials to no higher than three (3) inches in height.
- Address markers shall be clearly visible on front of all buildings and the street in front of the property at all hours of day/night. Address markers shall be a minimum of four (4) inches in height and 1/2" stroke (reflective) and contrast with background.
- When applicable: Ensure a three (3)-foot clearance of all vegetation and dirt around all fire hydrants adjacent to property line(s).

BRUSH CLEARANCE TIPS

Remember that when clearing your brush, safety is very important. In recent years, brush fires have started by homeowners attempting to clear their brush. Many times, the sparks produced by metal blades on motorized equipment have started fires.

The following safety guidelines are for homeowners to follow when clearing brush:

-  Always have a water source readily available, such as a water fire extinguisher, garden hose or a few buckets of water.
-  Avoid clearing brush during the peak temperatures of the day, between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., and on days when a Red Flag Alert has been declared by the Fire Department.
-  Only use properly maintained motorized equipment that has spark arresters.
-  Do not refuel motorized equipment while the motor is running. Use approved fuel-dispensing containers only.
-  Always make sure the hot exhaust on any motorized equipment is clear of any vegetation (grasses, weeds, shrubs).
-  Do not use metal blades on weed whackers/whips. Use nylon line or plastic blades instead.
-  Always wear safety glasses and gloves. Hard hats and dust masks are recommended.

Protect Your Home & Family From WILDFIRES



BreaFire.gov

All fireworks are prohibited within the City of Brea

Brush Clearance and Vegetation Management Requirements



General Standards

Property owners must maintain their property free of combustible materials/fire hazards

YEAR-ROUND. Combustible materials include, but are not limited to weeds, dead brush, dry or dead trees and tree limbs, dead palm fronds, combustible vegetation and refuse/waste.



Standards Related to Emergency Vehicle Access

Vegetation impeding line of sight for emergency vehicles must be trimmed back from roadway.

All vegetation, other than ground cover, must be at least three (3) feet from the roadway edge.

Ground Cover must be low enough so as not to block the view of oncoming traffic and/or traffic going around corners.

VEGETATION CLEARANCE MUST BE AT LEAST:

3 FEET from the edge of the pavement

13.6 FEET above ground from one side of roadway to the other.



Standards Related To Structures

- ▶ Trees, shrubs, bushes or other vegetation adjacent to or overhanging any structure shall be maintained free of dead limbs and other combustible material
- ▶ Roof surfaces shall be maintained free of accumulations of leaves, needles and other combustible material.
- ▶ Trees shall be trimmed to provide minimum ten (10) feet clearance around chimneys.
- ▶ All cut brush, weeds and debris shall be removed and legally disposed

Clearance around structures:



Safety & Evacuation During Fire

IN THE EVENT OF A FIRE

- Shut windows and doors*
- Shut off the air conditioner*
- Load your vehicles*
- If time allows, move combustible lawn furniture into garage and move other combustible material away from house.*
- Stay tuned to your TV or local radio station for updates.*

EVACUATIONS

- Leave early to avoid being caught in the fire, smoke, or road congestion*
- Go to a pre-determined location*
(It should be a low-risk area, such as a relative's home, a Red Cross shelter, or evacuation center, motel, etc)

SURVIVAL TIPS IF YOU ARE TRAPPED

- Shelter away from exterior walls*
- Patrol outside your home for fires and extinguish them*
- Stay hydrated*
- Fill sinks and tubs for an emergency water supply*
- Check inside the attic for hidden embers and extinguish if possible*
- Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire (remember that it is 4 to 5 times hotter outside!)*