WEED ABATEMENT AND HAZARD REDUCTION

COMPLETE BY JULY 1ST

The Rodeo-Hercules Fire District is now in the process of pursuing fire hazard reduction for the upcoming fire season and would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your cooperation with last year’s Hazard Reduction Program.

The danger of a major wildfire involving homes within the Town of Rodeo or City of Hercules is very real. Year after year the accumulation of dry dead weeds, brush or trees (“fuels”) within the wildland/urban and neighborhood setting increases dramatically. The recent devastating Northern California fires are a testament to this problem. Those types of horrific fires can happen here in our community—drought conditions exist every dry season that can allow a fire to sweep through entire neighborhoods.

As neighborhoods age and vegetation—both ornamental and native—is allowed to grow unchecked, an uninterrupted source of “fuel” is developed between homes, combustible wood shake roofs, and surrounding vegetation. All this considered, given the right conditions, i.e., an extended period of drought and sustained winds with low humidity, the chances of a large devastating fire here are very real.

All abatement or hazard clearance “fuels reduction” shall be completed by July 1st of each year. Again, the Fire District thanks you for your past cooperation and for making this a safer community. If you receive a "NOTICE FOR ABATEMENT", please do not ignore it. Your actions taken now will mean the difference in your and your family’s survival, the survival of your residence, and that of your neighborhood in a major fire.

It is the responsibility or every homeowner or resident to do their part in the reduction or abatement of "fuels" on their property that would further propagate or spread a fire. Again, we ask that you plan to clear your property by JULY 1st.

If you have questions regarding this very important program or fire safety in general, please contact the Rodeo-Hercules Fire District at 510-799-4561.

Rodeo-Hercules Fire District
Office of the Fire Marshal
RESIDENTIAL ABATEMENT STANDARDS
RODEO-HERCULES FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The following are minimum standards of the Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District for the abatement of exterior fire hazards in accordance with Division 12, Parts 3 & 5 of the California State Health and Safety Code and Chapter 3 of the California Fire Code.

1. Complete abatement may require a combination of disking, mowing and spraying on some parcels.

2. Mowing/Weed-Whacking: The maximum height for remaining material standing or lying is THREE INCHES (3”).

3. All grass/weeds in back yards are to be mowed/weed-whacked within property lines to include the hill or slope behind fences that belong to the parcel in question.

4. For exceptionally large lots with a slope or hill at the rear belonging to the affected property, the minimum requirements shall be fifty feet (50’) from the top rear of the parcel inward (rear fence or property line at the top of the slope), and 100 feet (100’) from the house (to include the rear yard and slope, and side and front yards). Ideally, the entire property would be abated.

5. Any grass/weeds left must be no longer than (3”) THREE INCHES, whether standing or laying.

6. Where applicable (on large parcels in remote areas), all structures must have a minimum ONE HUNDRED FOOT (100’) firebreak, disked, landscaped or mowed around them. This may include the maintained garden landscape.

7. All combustible rubbish, trash, trimmings or litter shall be removed from the property.

8. All combustible materials of value being stored outside away from a building shall be neatly stored and have all combustible growth cleared for 30’ around it (boats, cars, wood etc.)

9. The Fire District may require additional abatement on properties because of special problems with terrain, land use, growth, location, or the fire history of the area.

10. Abatement of exterior fire hazards shall be maintained annually. Parcels may require a second abatement during the summer due to additional growth of weeds.

If you have any questions, please contact the Rodeo-Hercules Fire Prevention Bureau at (510) 799-4561.
IF YOU HAVE AN OVER-GROWTH OF BRUSH, MANZANITA, SCRUB OAK, COYOTE, GREASE WOOD, ETC. WITHIN YOUR PROPERTY YOU MUST BEGIN TO THIN THIS OUT TO CREATE A FIRE BREAK FOR YOUR HOME AND YOUR NEIGHBORS.

MINIMUM OF 50' FROM INSIDE REAR OF PROPERTY LINE

LARGE LOTS

FROM REAR OF HOME, A MINIMUM OF 100' INCLUDING LANDSCAPED YARDS

KEEP CLEAR OF DRY DEAD WEEDS

MAINTAIN YOUR PROPERTY IN A FIRE SAFE MANNER AT ALL TIMES

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERYTHING WITHIN YOUR PROPERTY LINE

UNDER MOST CONDITIONS YOU WILL SHARE A COMMON PROPERTY LINE WITH YOUR REAR NEIGHBOR.

IF YOUR HOME IS AT THE BOTTOM OF A SLOPE WITH HOMES DIRECTLY ABOVE, 99% OF THE TIME THAT LARGE SLOPE AREA IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND MUST BE MAINTAINED IN A FIRE SAFE MANNER AT ALL TIMES.

THE CITY HAS COMPLETED FIRE BREAKS IN THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR A LARGE LOT. IDEALLY THE WHOLE LOT IS ABATED

IF YOU HAVE CUT YOUR WEEDS AND REMOVED THE FIRE HAZARD THANK YOU!

IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO, PLEASE DO IT NOW !!!!!!!!