



# Vista Fire Rescue Vista Fire Protection District

## Vegetation Management Program

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March \_\_, 2026

COMPANY/PERSON NAME  
STREET ADDRESS  
CITY STATE ZIP

Property APN:  
Property Address:

Dear Property Owner,

This letter is to inform you that your parcel is included in the 2026 Vegetation Management Program administered by Vista Fire Rescue and the Vista Fire Protection District. This annual program plays an important role in reducing wildfire risk, protecting homes and infrastructure, and supporting a safer, more resilient community. Starting **May 18, 2026**, inspection teams will conduct vegetation management inspections within designated program areas.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

Inspections will focus on vegetation management and the removal of fire hazards on your property. If fire hazards are found on the property, you will receive a “Notice to Abate Fire Hazard” with instructions detailing what abatement measures are needed. If no fire hazards are found on the property, you will not receive a “Notice to Abate Fire Hazard.” As a reminder, all properties in the City of Vista and Vista Fire Protection District shall comply with the current vegetation management and defensible space ordinances year-round.

To avoid administrative charges and/or additional enforcement action, property owners are strongly encouraged to make private arrangements for the clearing of hazards on their properties. A list of local contractors is enclosed for your convenience.

### VEGETATION MANAGEMENT POLICY

This policy applies to all parcels subject to vegetation management within the City of Vista and the Vista Fire Protection District.

All properties require a minimum of 10 feet of vegetation clearance on each side of the roadway and a minimum of 50 feet from property lines (up to 100 feet from property lines if it is determined that the property imposes a hazard to a neighboring building). The Fire Chief or their designee may require a greater distance, but not to exceed 100 feet, when it is determined necessary to provide defensible space for improvements on an adjacent property.

Vacant lots shall remove all dead, dying, or diseased vegetation and mow dead grass to a height of no more than four inches. This includes pest-infested or pathogen-infested vegetation and abandoned or neglected orchards and groves. Palm trees shall be maintained free of dead palm fronds to prevent the formation of hazardous “skirts.”

### **VEGETATION MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Any weeds, grass, or similar ground vegetation shall be cleared or trimmed and maintained at a height not exceeding four inches. All property owners and contractors are required to comply with state and federal regulations regarding native vegetation including the Endangered Species Act. This letter is not intended to conflict with any federal or state requirements regarding vegetation removal in biological open spaces or with regulations of the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning rare, threatened, or endangered species. Landowners must notify relevant agencies ten days before vegetation clearing, allowing time for compliance assessment; failure to do so may result in legal liability.

We appreciate your cooperation and partnership in helping to keep Vista a fire-safe community. Thank you for your efforts to protect our homes, neighborhoods, and natural resources.

If you have questions or need assistance with vegetation management, please contact us by email at [VegetationManagement@vista.gov](mailto:VegetationManagement@vista.gov). When contacting our office, please include your Assessor’s Parcel Number. More information can be found at [www.vista.gov/vegetation](http://www.vista.gov/vegetation) or by scanning the QR code.

Sincerely,



Mark Vierow  
Vista Fire Rescue  
Fire Marshal

