# CITY OF OCEANSIDE
# NUISANCE VEGETATION AND WASTE CLEARANCE STANDARDS
## Oceanside City Code Chapters 11 & 17 and California Fire Code Chapters 1 & 3

June 3, 2014

1. Nuisance vegetation (hazardous when dry) and waste on parcels of one acre or less shall be abated in its entirety. If the area is suspected to be a habitat for endangered species (plants or animals), see item #10.

2. Nuisance vegetation and waste on parcels more than one acre in size shall be abated as follows:
   A. At least 100 feet of clearance, measured in a horizontal plane, around all structures, or up to the property line, whichever is nearer.
   B. At least 50 feet of clearance around the perimeter of the parcel for all portions that do not abut a roadway.
   C. At least 10 feet of clearance on each side of established roadways.
   If the area is suspected to be a habitat for endangered species (plants or animals), see item #10.

3. Contiguous parcels, owned by the same person or firm, may be considered as one (1) parcel for the purpose of abatement.

4. Abatement shall include all areas where the parcel has curbs, parkways, easements, and abuts or adjoins other parcels.

5. Mowing, string trimming, or hand trimming shall be considered the primary method of abating vegetation. Vegetation shall be cut to a length no higher than two (2) inches from the surface of the soil with roots left in place. If mowing or trimming is not feasible and discing is used, all standing vegetation in the abatement area must be turned under. Cross-discing may be necessary if the soil is not receptive to the disc.

6. Litter and debris shall be removed from all streets, sidewalks, driveways, and abated areas.

7. Accumulated leaves, bark, and/or other debris shall be cleared at least thirty (30) feet around structures and off any roof or roof gutters.

8. Cuttings and trimmings may be mulched or chipped and left in place to a maximum depth of six (6) inches. Cuttings, trimmings, and/or waste, which are hauled from the site, must be disposed of at an authorized location.

9. Mature trees in an abatement area shall be trimmed as follows:
   A. To a height of at least thirteen and one-half (13 ½) feet above the surface of a roadway or driveway.
   B. To a height of at least six (6) feet above the ground or surrounding vegetation.
   C. To a distance of ten (10) feet from nearby chimneys.

10. Environmental Considerations:
    A. Landowners who suspect or know of the existence of habitat land or of a State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species (plants or animals) on their property must notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at least ten (10) days before starting abatement to request permission. (858) 467-4201.
    B. If a State or Federally listed threatened or endangered species animal is killed, injured, or captured, the landowner shall report this information to the CA Department of Fish & Wildlife.
    C. Additional information regarding threatened or endangered species can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/endangered/
    D. Abatement shall be accomplished by methods that will not disturb native soil or root stock.
    E. Abatement of environmentally sensitive areas shall be in accordance with the City of Oceanside Subarea Habitat Conservation Plan. http://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/dev/planning/subarea.asp.

Felipe Rodriguez, Fire Marshal

David Manley, Neighborhood Services Manager