

County of Santa Clara

Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency

Agriculture and Environmental Management

1553 Berger Drive, Building 1 San Jose, CA 95112

80 W. Highland Avenue, Building K San Martin, CA 95046

12425 Monterey Road, San Martin, CA 95046

Mosquito and Vector Control District

1580 Berger Drive, San Jose, CA 95112



<https://cepa.santaclaracounty.gov>

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ABATE WEEDS

January 14, 2026

Dear Property Owner:

Fire safety is crucial for protecting lives, preserving property, ensuring community well-being, and minimizing environmental impact. Removing fire hazards from your property is a proactive step to reduce the risk of injury, death, and significant damage. Effective prevention and preparedness measures not only save lives but also help safeguard our environment and reduce economic losses. Maintaining proper clearance requirements, known as *Minimum Fire Safety Standards*, is a shared responsibility. Since fire doesn't respect property boundaries, your local city (or County if in unincorporated areas) works with the County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Program to ensure that all properties meet these *Minimum Fire Safety Standards* obligations. You are receiving this notice because our team has identified your property as being subject to the Weed Abatement Program. Please review the information carefully, and feel free to reach out for clarification or additional information.

The governing body for your property may adopt a resolution declaring that it contains fire hazards due to weeds or other debris. Following this action, the governing body will hold a public Commencement Hearing as part of a public meeting to consider an abatement order. This order will require you to remove any hazardous vegetation or combustible debris before the deadline outlined in the enclosed *Weed Abatement Program Schedule*. The public Commencement Hearing will take place on the date and at the location stated in the enclosed Notice to Destroy. This hearing will provide you with an opportunity to raise any objections or concerns regarding this requirement and the inclusion of your property in the Weed Abatement Program.

If you believe your property includes an environmentally sensitive habitat, please check the box on the blue *Return Reply Form* and provide any additional information on the *Return Reply Form* to assist us in determining the best approach to abating your property from fire hazards.

If, after the public Commencement Hearing, the Weed Abatement Program is approved for your property, the County is authorized by your city, and the California Health and Safety Code sections §14875-14922 to inspect your property to confirm that it has been cleared of hazards and is compliant with *Minimum Fire Safety Standards* (see enclosed brochure). Inspections will begin after the abatement deadline for your jurisdiction. This notice does not relieve you of your responsibility to complete the necessary work before your jurisdiction's deadline. All properties designated to be part of the Weed Abatement Program will have a \$296 annual inspection fee to cover the cost of the program. This \$296 cost will be included on your property tax bill as a special assessment.

In addition to the \$296 annual inspection fee, if the parcel is found non-compliant at the time of our inspection, the parcel will be assessed a processing fee of \$953 per parcel, and the property will be scheduled for abatement by the County-designated contractor. You will not incur additional charges if the abatement work is completed before the County-designated contractor arrives. However, should the County-designated contractor perform the abatement work, the parcel will incur the cost associated with the contractor's work plus an additional County administrative fee of \$1,383 per parcel.

For those parcels requiring a warrant, a fee of \$3,006 per parcel will be assessed.

Board of Supervisors: Sylvia Arenas, Betty Duong, Otto Lee, Susan Ellenberg, Margaret Abe-Koga

County Executive: James R. Williams

The County will use the lowest cost method of abatement considering the physical characteristics of your property and any other environmental or related concerns. Fees are detailed on the price list included in the *Notice to Destroy*. The total amount of fees incurred will be included as a special assessment on your property tax bill following confirmation of the charges by your city (or the County if the parcel is in an unincorporated area) at a public Assessment Hearing. This Assessment Hearing will be scheduled in the summer, with the exact date determined by your governing body. Typically, Assessment Hearing information is posted at the physical location of the governing body (typically at a city hall building or other government center and most also publish this information on their websites) prior to the meeting.

You can avoid all costs, other than the \$296 annual inspection fee, by completing the abatement work yourself according to Minimum Fire Safety Standards (see enclosed brochure) prior to the abatement deadline for your jurisdiction and maintaining the Minimum Fire Safety Standards for the duration of fire season, which typically runs March through October. Parcels will be removed from the program after three consecutive years of voluntary compliance (work completed by parcel owner prior to the deadline and confirmed by our inspection).

In preparation for this program, please complete and return the enclosed blue *Return Reply Form* so we are notified of your plans for abating your property.

If you designate on your *Return Reply Form* that you intend to abate the weeds yourself, you need to complete the abatement before the deadline listed on the attached abatement program schedule and maintain fire-safe conditions for the duration of the fire season. Responding that you intend to provide maintenance does not release you from this responsibility to have the maintenance *completed* before your deadline and *repeated* as necessary to maintain Minimum Fire Safe Standards. The County will abate hazardous vegetation as required after the deadline for your jurisdiction at your cost.

Enclosed you will find the following information:

***Return Reply Form* specific to your parcel. Please complete and return it to us.**

***Notice to Destroy Weeds* informing you of an upcoming public Commencement Hearing** (that you may attend if you have any objections to the proposed removal of hazardous vegetation or debris from your parcel). Your jurisdiction may offer you the ability to participate in this meeting virtually; please confirm directly with your jurisdiction.

***Weed Abatement Program Schedule* for your city with current County abatement fees.**

County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Brochure.

Please be aware that any abatement performed by the County must comply with all applicable regulations. If your property falls within an area designated as possible habitat for burrowing owls or any other protected species of bird or animal, the methods used to remove vegetation may be regulated by specific laws or local ordinances.

If you are no longer the parcel owner identified by this mailing, please notify us immediately at (408) 282-3145. If you sell your parcel after the date of this letter, it is your responsibility to notify the new owner and include the obligation to pay any abatement costs in your sale agreement. Without taking this action, you will be responsible for all hazard abatement charges assessed to the parcel.

Our goals are voluntary compliance with the *Minimum Fire Safety Standards* and that all properties remain safe from fire. If you have any questions or need on-site advice to help you achieve compliance with the *Minimum Fire Safety Standards*, please call us at (408) 282-3145.

Sincerely,



Garik Iosilevsky, Weed Abatement Manager
Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency

Notice to Destroy Weeds

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on December 2, 2025, pursuant to the provisions of Section 11.20.020 of the Town Code of the Town of Los Gatos, the Town Council of said Town adopted a Resolution declaring that all weeds growing upon any private property or in any street, sidewalk or alley, as defined in Section 11.20.020 of such code, constitute a public nuisance, which nuisance must be abated by the destruction or removal thereof.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that property owners shall within thirty days after the adoption of such resolution, or within the time specified in a written agreement with the Director of Parks and Public Works of the Town of Los Gatos, or the Director of Parks and Public Works' representative, whichever time shall be later, remove all such weeds from their property, the abutting sidewalks, and the abutting half of the street in front, and alleys, if any, behind such property, and between the lot lines thereof as extended, or such weeds will be destroyed or removed and such nuisance abated by the Town of Los Gatos, in which case the cost of such destruction or removal will be assessed upon the lots and lands from which, or from the front or rear of which, such weeds shall have been destroyed or removed; and such cost will constitute a lien upon such lots or lands until paid, and will be collected upon the next tax roll upon which general municipal taxes are collected. All property owners having any objections to the proposed destruction or removal of such weeds are hereby notified to attend a meeting of the Town Council of such Town to be held in the Council Chambers of said Town at 110 East Main Street, Los Gatos, California, on **Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.**, or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, when their objections will be heard and given due consideration. *The language and format for this notice is required by California Health and Safety Code Sections 14891 Et. Seq.*

LOS GATOS WEED ABATEMENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February 3, 2026

Public hearing to consider objections to Abatement List.

April 15, 2026

PARCEL ABATEMENT DEADLINE

Parcel must be free from hazardous vegetation by this date or Inspector will order abatement.

July-August, 2026

Assessment Hearing to protest abatement charges
(Date subject to change, please confirm with City Clerk)

2026 COUNTY WEED ABATEMENT FEES

Properties in the Weed Abatement Program, you will be responsible for an annual inspection fee of \$296.00 per parcel.

Please be advised that the property owner of any parcel found to be non-compliant on or after the April 15th deadline may be charged a work order processing fee of \$953.00 and the property will be scheduled for abatement by the County contractor. If you complete the abatement work before the County contractor performs the abatement, you will not incur further charges. Should the abatement work be performed by a County contractor, you will be assessed the contractor's charges plus a County administrative fee of \$1,383.00 per parcel. For those parcels requiring a warrant a fee of \$3,006.00 per parcel will be assessed.

2026 COUNTY CONTRACTOR'S WEED ABATEMENT PRICE LIST

A) Disc Work**

PARCEL SIZE:	1 st Disc	+	2 nd Disc	=	Total Discs
0-12,500 sq.ft.	<u>\$291-\$425</u>		<u>\$149-\$180</u>		<u>\$440-\$605</u>
12,501sq.ft.- 43,560sq.ft.	<u>\$338-\$425</u>		<u>\$149-\$225</u>		<u>\$487-\$650</u>
Larger than 1 Acre	<u>\$152-\$309</u>		<u>\$130-\$151</u>		<u>\$282-\$460</u> (PER ACRE)

** It is required that parcels be disced twice a year. The cost for the first discing is higher due to additional work normally required during the first discing.

B) HANDWORK	<u>\$5.09-\$5.73 PER 100 Square Feet (SF)</u>
C) FLAIL	<u>6 Foot Mower \$6.40-10.97 PER 1,000 SF</u>
MOWING	<u>12 Foot Mower \$6.40-10.97 PER 1,000 SF</u>
D) LOADER WORK	<u>\$153-\$185 PER HOUR</u>
E) DUMP TRUCK	<u>\$141-\$185 PER HOUR</u>
F) BRUSH WORK	<u>\$4.80-\$5.47 PER 100 SF</u>
G) DUMP FEE	<u>100%</u>
Added to orders with debris removal at 100% of the dump site charge.	

***Please note this program does not offer herbicide application as a method of abatement.**

(over)



You Can Help Prevent Fires in Your Neighborhood

Protect what's important—your loved ones, your pets, and your property. Recognize potential fire hazards and apply these Minimum Fire Safety Standards.



About the County of Santa Clara Weed Abatement Program

We help protect our community from fire dangers. Our goal is to ensure that properties are free from fire hazards, such as overgrown vegetation and debris, to minimize the spread of fires.

Contact Us

🌐 cepascc.org/weed-abatement

✉ WeedAbatement@cep.sccgov.org

☎ (408) 282-3145

📍 1553 Berger Drive, San José, CA 95112



Minimum Fire Safety Standards You Should Know About



Minimum Fire Safety Standards

Keep your property and neighborhood safe from fires. To be in compliance with the County's Weed Abatement Program, follow the Minimum Fire Safety Standards:

1. Tall Grass, Weeds, and Flammable Vegetation

Keep weeds, grass, and brush below 6 inches in height.



2. Flammable Debris

Keep your property clear of debris such as trash, wood, and dead plants.



3. Overgrown Trees

Keep branches at least 10 feet from chimneys, 6 feet off the ground, and clear from under the eaves of houses.



4. Dead Vegetation on Roofs

Keep roofs and gutters clear of leaves and debris. Remove dead trees and vegetation.



I received a notice that my property is on the Weed Abatement Program. What happens next?

A Weed Abatement inspector will visit your property annually for at least three years to determine if it is in compliance with the Minimum Fire Safety Standards.

If a violation is found on your property, you have two weeks to correct it before we return for another inspection. If you don't correct it or contact us, we may take necessary steps to bring your property into compliance. This will result in additional costs beyond the annual inspection fees.

If your property is in compliance and remains compliant during our annual inspections, you will only be charged the annual inspection fee for three consecutive years.

Refer to the Weed Abatement notice letter for details.

Scan or visit the link to view the complete list of Minimum Fire Safety Standards. →



cepascc.org/fire-safety

Español | 中文 | Tiếng Việt | Tagalog

2026 Return Reply Form

AT&T COMMS OF CALIF INC

IMPORTANT: Please complete this form and mail back to the Weed Abatement Program within 15 days of receipt of this notice. Thank you.

TRA: 87

SAMPLE

AT&T COMMS OF CALIF INC
1090 E DUANE AVE
SUNNYVALE CA 94085-2623

825-02-138
825-02-138

Please check the box that applies for each parcel (see explanations below):

Parcel Number	Site Address	A	B	C
825-02-138	73 SOUTH SAN MARTIN	☐	☐	☐

A I am no longer the owner of this property, and the new owner information is listed below. Please return Reply Form immediately.

B I intend to maintain this parcel in a manner consistent with the Minimum Fire Safety Standards from **April 1, 2025 through the end of the fire season (typically runs through October)**. All parcels on the abatement list remain subject to inspection and fee to ascertain compliance. Non-compliance by the deadline will result in an Inspection fee and the abatement of weeds by the County contractor and the resulting charges added to the property tax.

C I request that the County Contractor perform weed abatement work on this parcel. Charges for this work will be added to my property tax bill. **(All County fees Apply)**

Please provide any additional information such as new owners, presence of piping, irrigation, crops or other improvement. If your property is fenced/locked, please provide instructions on how to enter the property. If you are no longer the owner of the property identified by this mailing, please notify the County immediately. If you sell your property after December 1st, 2025, it is your responsibility to notify the new owner and to include the obligation to pay any abatement costs in your agreement of sale. Without taking this action, you will be liable for all hazard abatement charges assessed to the property. Thank you

☐ Please check if you feel this parcel is environmentally sensitive

Signature

Name (please print)

Date

()
Day time phone

County of Santa Clara

Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency
Weed Abatement Division

1553 Berger Drive
Building 1
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 282-3145
Fax (408) 286-2460



AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

Notice of Public Hearing for the Jurisdictions of: Los Gatos

Garik Josilevsky, declares as follows: That he/she is a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years, that at all times herein mentioned was an employee/agent of the County of Santa Clara.

Garik Josilevsky, deposited in the United States Post Office, California, a Notice of Hearing, a copy of which is attached hereto. That said mailing list has been provided by the applicant and lists the owners of property who are entitled to Notice of Hearing. That on said day, there was a regular communication by United States mail between San Jose, California and the addresses shown on the attached mailing list.

I declare under penalty of perjury that
the foregoing is true and correct.

Date: 1/14/2026
By: [Signature]

1553 Berger Drive
Building 1
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 282-3123