



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 21, 2020

PHONE: 831-646-3908

CONTACT: Sichel Young, Fire Prevention Officer

EMAIL: FirePrevention@monterey.org

WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY INSPECTIONS BEGIN JUNE 1, 2020 ON HOMES AND VACANT LOTS IN MONTEREY, PACIFIC GROVE, CARMEL, AND SAND CITY

Monterey, CA - The Monterey Fire Department will begin conducting fire safety inspections on June 1, 2020, for all homes in areas at risk for a wildland fire within the cities of Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel, and Sand City. This inspection is done on an annual basis to help minimize the spread and growth of a wildland fire and reduce the potential loss of homes in such an event. Once the inspection has been completed, the fire department will leave a notice at the home indicating the inspection was completed and what, if any, corrective actions should be taken by the homeowner/occupant. The notices will be in the form of a self-adhesive sticker left on or near the door (see example).

Follow-up letters will be sent to homeowners for properties where additional work should be done. In 30 days, a re-inspection will be completed to ensure that homeowners are properly preparing their home and in compliance with regulations.

Homeowners and residents are encouraged to be proactive in making their home defensible in the event of a fire by taking the following steps:

- Keep grass mowed to 4 inches or less
- Remove leaves and pine needles from roofs and gutters
- Remove dead and dying vegetation within 30 feet of your home
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns
- Prune trees up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground; for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height
- Remove branches that hang over your roof and keep branches 10 feet away from your chimney
- Remove vegetation and items that could catch fire from around and under decks

(more)

Monterey Fire Department · 610 Pacific Street · Monterey · California · 93940 · (831) 646-3908

Proudly Serving Monterey, Monterey Regional Airport, Pacific Grove, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Sand City, Presidio of Monterey, Naval Postgraduate School and La Mesa Village



For further information on preparing their homes, people can visit www.readyforwildfire.org/. For information on the inspection program, contact the Monterey Prevention Bureau at 831-646-3908.

Example of Inspection Notice

Front



MONTEREY FIRE DEPARTMENT
Weed Abatement/Fuel Reduction Inspection

Date: _____ **Inspected by:** _____

Address: _____

An inspection of the above property shows that the following needs to be completed to ensure the potential fire hazard has been abated:

There were no potential fire hazards found on your property at this time. Thank you!

Trim/remove dead tall grass and weeds from the property.
 Remove pine needles/leaves from roof and gutters.
 Provide spark arrester for your chimney.
 Other: _____

A re-inspection will be made in 30 days of the receipt of this notice. Should you require an extension of time to comply with this notice, or have any questions please contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 831.646.3908. Please see back for further information.

Back

HELP KEEP YOUR HOME SAFE:

- If limbs encroach on overhead lines, contact your telephone or power company for removal.
- Keep annual grasses mowed to a height of 4” or less.
- Remove all dying plants and other flammable vegetation within 30 feet of your home.
- Remove leaves and pine needles from your roof and gutters.
- Keep ground clear of leaf litter exceeding 3” thick.
- Keep decks clear of vegetation and other flammables.

Additional safety steps and information on how to improve the survivability of your home during a wildfire can be found at:
ReadyforWildfire.org