



City of Atascadero  
**FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES**

**NOTICE**

Dear Atascadero Property Owner,

Weed abatement season is underway, and Atascadero Fire & emergency Services has recently conducted parcel inspections throughout the City. As part of our commitment to fire safety, and in accordance with the Atascadero Municipal Code, Section 6-13.08, we are notifying property owners of identified fire hazards to help reduce wildfire risks in our community.

Please be advised that nearly half of the parcels within the City, including your property has been identified as an existing, future or potential fire hazard at the time of inspection. A parcel may be classified as a future or potential hazard if it is not completely landscaped or irrigated and/or has a potential for vegetative growth that may require abatement. If you received a notice of non-compliance but have already mowed, please be aware that the property may still be considered out of compliance if regular mowing and vegetation maintenance are not continued throughout the fire season.

To comply with fire safety regulations, please complete any necessary abatement work by June 1<sup>st</sup>. After this deadline, Atascadero Fire & Emergency Services will conduct follow-up inspections. If your property meets compliance standards at that time, no further action will be needed. If it is not, a notice will be placed on your door or posted on the property, and abatement work will proceed as necessary.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping to maintain a safe and fire-resilient community. If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

---

**NOTICE TO REMOVE VEGETATIVE GROWTH (NOXIOUS WEEDS) AND /OR REFUSE**

Notice is hereby given that on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, the City Council passed a Resolution declaring that vegetative growth (noxious weeds) and refuse constitute a fire hazard, and health and safety hazard, which must be abated by the cutting (no grading) of said vegetative growth (noxious weeds), and/or removal of refuse which constitutes said health and safety hazard. If the property owner does not abate the noxious weeds and/or refuse by **June 1, 2026**, it will be abated by the City, and the cost of the abatement will be assessed upon the County property tax bill and will constitute a lien upon such land until paid. The City recovers costs for administering this program through a \$299 flat fee and 166% administrative fee. Reference is hereby made to the Resolution for further particulars and Municipal Code Sections 6-13.01 through 6-13.17. A copy of said Resolution is on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

All property owners having any objections to the proposed removal of the hazard are encouraged to attend the meeting of the City Council of the City of Atascadero to be held on **May 12, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** when their objections will be heard and given due consideration.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026

Casey D. Bryson  
Fire Chief  
City of Atascadero

Working together to **serve, build community** and enhance **quality of life.**

## THE DEADLINE FOR WEED/REFUSE ABATEMENT COMPLIANCE IS JUNE 1, 2026

Starting June 1, 2026, the fire department will conduct a reinspection and the City's contractor will begin the abatement process for parcels that do not meet compliance requirements. If the property is found to be compliant when the contractor arrives, a notation will be made confirming that the owner completed the necessary abatement, and no further action will be taken. If abatement is required, the associated contractor fees, along with any applicable City and County fees/fines will be assessed on the County's tax roll.

The Fire Chief has established the following requirements:

### **CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS OF VEGETATIVE GROWTH (NOXIOUS WEEDS) - Maximum height of 4 inches**

- a. Located within 100 feet of any building or structure, or to the property line, whichever is nearer.
- b. Located within 50 feet from the edge of any improved roadway.
- c. Located within 50 feet from each property line.
- d. Located within 10 feet on each side of driveways.
- e. Grading or movement of soil may require a permit.

### **EXEMPTIONS:**

- a) Animal pastures and agricultural fields growing hay or grains. The interior portion of fenced pastures where the quantity of livestock significantly reduces the vegetative growth, therefore bringing the parcel into compliance. Agricultural fields must be cut at harvest time. Uncut hay and grain is subject to abatement.
- b) Habitat for endangered or threatened species or any species that is a candidate for listing as an endangered or threatened species by the State of California or Federal Government.
- c) Land kept in a predominantly natural state as habitat for wildlife, plant, or animal communities.
- d) Open space lands that are environmentally sensitive parklands.
- e) Other lands having scenic values.

*Abatement requirements shall remain in effect in waterways where flood preparation measures and emergency flood control mitigation is necessary.*

- 1) This exemption applies whether the land or water are held in fee title or any lesser interest. This exemption applies to any public agency, and private entity that has dedicated the land or water areas to one or more of those purposes or uses, or any combination of public agencies and private entities making that decision.
- 2) This section shall not be construed to prohibit the use of properly authorized prescribed burning to improve the biological function of land or to assist in the restoration of desired vegetation.
- 3) In the event that any lands adjacent to land or water areas, as described above, are improved such that they are subject to this chapter, the obligation to comply with Section 6-13.04 shall be with the person owning, leasing, controlling, operating, or maintaining the occupied dwelling or occupied structure on the improved lands. All maintenance, activities, and other fire prevention measures required by Section 6-13.04 shall be required only for the improved land, and water areas as described above.

Questions regarding weed abatement may be directed to (805) 470-3300 or by writing to: City of Atascadero, Fire & Emergency Services, Fire Marshal, 6500 Palma Ave., Atascadero, CA 93422.

**PLEASE RETAIN THIS NOTICE FOR ANY RELATED COMMUNICATIONS**