

 <p>The logo for the North Central Fire Protection District (NCFPD) is a red Maltese cross with a gold border. The word "NORTH" is arched above the cross, and "CENTRAL" is arched below it. Inside the cross, the letters "F", "N", and "C" are arranged vertically, with "D" to the right of "N". Above "F" is "EST." and below "C" is "1947".</p>	<p><b>NORTH CENTRAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT</b></p> <p><b>POLICIES</b></p> <p><b>408.005 WEED ABATEMENT POLICY AND REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <p><b>EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 2016</b></p>
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## SCOPE

The minimum weed abatement performance requirements for the District. These requirements apply to all combustible rubbish, weeds, grass, vegetation or other organic material.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the requirements related to the abatement of combustible rubbish, weeds, grass, vegetation or other organic material within the North Central Fire Protection District (NCFPD or District).

## BACKGROUND

As noted in the *California Health and Safety Code*, when the Board of Directors of the NCFPD passes a resolution declaring that noxious or dangerous weeds growing upon or near a property or location within their jurisdiction, the dangerous weeds shall be deemed a public nuisance which must be abated.

## DEFINITIONS

Discing consists of breaking and turning over earth such that there is insufficient fuel to ignite or permit the spread of an unwanted fire.

Handwork includes weed eating or hoeing earth such that there is insufficient fuel to ignite or permit the spread of an unwanted fire.

Mowing includes mechanically removing vegetation such that there is insufficient fuel to ignite or permit the spread of an unwanted fire and the remaining vegetation is no higher than four (4) inches in height.

## REQUIREMENTS:

Based upon the need for uniformity in application across the District's diverse

service delivery area, and after careful deliberation of the applicable codes and standards, the District has determined the following:

Unoccupied or vacant property must be completely disced or mowed.

Occupied properties smaller than five (5) acres must have a thirty (30) foot disced clearance at each property line or have a thirty (30) foot wide mow strip (to a height of less than four (4) inches) at each property line. There must also be a (30) foot disced (or other approved) clearance from each structure or building. (This will allow a driveway, etc., of sufficient width to be judged to comply).

Occupied properties larger than five (5) acres must have a thirty (30) foot disced clearance at each property line or have a thirty (30) foot wide mow strip (to a height of less than four (4) inches) at each property line. The property must also be crisscrossed with thirty (30) foot clearance lanes leaving sections of no more than five (5) acres. There must be a (30) foot disced (or other approved) clearance from each structure or building.

Occupied properties shall have vegetation removed in a manner such that there is insufficient fuel to ignite or permit the spread of an unwanted fire and the remaining vegetation is no higher than four (4) inches in height.

Alternative equivalent performance requirements shall be as follows:

Where approved by the Fire Chief (or designee), fire-resistant vegetation, such as irrigated crops, ice plant, green ivy, and other live plants recognized by the NCFPD as being fire resistant may be used in lieu of, or in conjunction with, the minimum performance requirements above.

Additional locations and conditions shall be as follows:

1. Additional locations including alleys, sidewalks, park strips, or unimproved easements abutting a property noted are also subject to the minimum performance requirements noted above.
2. Tumbleweeds must be disced, mowed, or removed by handwork on a year-round basis.