

Fire Department Weed Abatement Program

City Council Meeting August 8, 2017 Paul Lowenthal Assistant Fire Marshal

Weed Abatement Program

- The Santa Rosa Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau coordinates an annual Weed Abatement (W.A.) inspection program throughout the City.
- Each year, the program begins with the Santa Rosa City Council, through Resolution, declaring weeds and rubbish to be a public nuisance. This step is followed up by a Public Hearing where the public has the opportunity to express any objections to the program.

Weed Abatement Program

- ➤ Upon the declaration of "Fire Season" by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal Fire), parcel owners are required to maintain their parcels in compliance with Ordinance #3681
- After the compliance date, parcels are inspected by Fire Prevention personnel on a regular basis.

Weed Abatement Process

- If a property is inspected and is not in compliance, a W.A. Notice will be sent to the owner advising them of the Ordinance.
- A second inspection is conducted and if the parcel is found to still be in violation, a Violation Notice will be sent to the property owner, listing the violation(s) and a date for the next inspection.

Weed Abatement Process

➤ If a property remains out of compliance following the W.A. Violation Notice, the Fire Department is authorized to use our contractor to abate the property: Costs associated are recovered by the City.

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended that the Council, by resolution, ratify and confirm the itemized report of the Fire Department of the cost of weed and rubbish abatement as provided for in Sections 9-08.020, 9-08-080, and 9-08.090 of the Santa Rosa City Code.
- Questions?