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Property owners reminded to meet exterior hazard and fuel break requirements

By Jennifer Wake

The official start of fire season begins June 1, and the Moraga-Orinda Fire District is reminding property owners about the need to adhere to Moraga-Orinda Ordinances 23.03 and 23.04 by focusing on fire abatement strategies in the three zones surrounding homes.

Zone 0 extends from 0 to 5 feet from any structure, attached deck, or outbuilding on the parcel and requires the most stringent wildfire fuel reduction. Zone 1, referred to as the Lean, Clean, and Green Zone, extends from 5 feet to 30 feet from any structure or attached deck, or from 5 feet from the structure or attached deck to the property line, whichever is closer. And Zone 2, the Reduced Fuel Zone, extends from 30 feet to 100 feet from any structure or attached deck, or from 30 feet from the structure or attached deck to the property line, whichever is closer.

Requirements include removing all combustible ground cover such as mulch and bark within 2 feet of all structures; creating 1-foot vertical clearance from foliage to ground for any plants within 2 feet of the structure; removing all dead or dying trees, hazardous vegetation, and/or rubbish; removing or cutting grasses to height less than 3 inches; removing any Monterey pine or Eucalyptus located within 5 feet of a structure or attached decks; and removing all tree branches that are within 6 vertical feet of the roof, and more.

For a complete list of abatement requirements, visit www.mofd.org/our-district/fuels-mitigation-fire-prevention/annual-abatement-requirements

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