

## **PB ALERT: Fire Safety Compliance Lot Inspection Process and Schedule**

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Fire Safety Compliance Inspections by CalFire for improved lots and EPFD for bare lots will be a little different this year to accommodate the COVID-19 requirements for 6' spacing, protective clothing (masks and gloves) and minimizing interaction with others. The volunteer program inspectors are not being used this year by CalFire, so CalFire officers will be doing all the improved lot inspections. EPFD will be doing the bare lot inspections as in the past years.

**As a reminder and if you are a new property owner, here is where you find the information regarding Fire Safety Compliance (Even if you use a Lot Cleaner, you need to know the requirements as you are the one held responsible).**

- . Go to the Pinebrook Website ([www.pinebrookhoa.com](http://www.pinebrookhoa.com)) and find on the left side “**Fire Safety**” which you can select to all the inspection requirements. You may want to print a copy!
- . If you want to hire a Lot Cleaner, who should know all the requirements and also the COVID-19 restrictions. Go to “**Greater Arnold Area Services & Entertainment**” which you can select and then go to “**Snow, Tree, Green Debris Removal**” for a list of service providers
- . If you are cleaning yourself or with a Lot Cleaner with plans on burning debris, you will need a permit from CalFire starting on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Permits are obtained through an online process by executing: <https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/apply-for-permit/> and then print a copy..

### **Here is input on the process from CalFire and EPFD:**

1. Improved property fire safety compliance inspections and the process will be the same as in past years, with the first inspections starting in May when CALFIRE staff is available. Enforcement occurs at the third inspection when an owner is blatantly ignoring the 4291 code law.
2. Bare property fire safety compliance inspections will be same as in the past years, with the first inspection starting in late May or June.
3. Fire, like the COVID-19, is a destructive and life threatening disaster and needs to be mitigated with proper defensible space around all structures.
4. Lot Cleaners are a needed critical resource to meet the 4291 objectives in the practical sense given most property owners will not have the capability to create the defensible space themselves. These Lot Cleaners need to be aware of the defensible space requirements as well as the COVID-19 social distancing criteria, any defined isolation wear like masks and gloves, and not working when sick. The same holds true for the property owner themselves.
5. If a public health official deems the Lot Cleaner's activity as non-essential, there will be a discussion with that decision making authority in regard to the need for public health, safety, and property protection from fire. Government officials and Public Health officials will have the final say.

### **Special Comments for key compliance actions (Make sure these are done):**

1. Defensible space (bare ground) 30' around all inhabitable structures
2. Defensible space (bare ground) 10' around inhabitable structures, propane tanks, wood piles
3. Trim up live trees and eliminate “ladder” fuel, remove all dead trees, dead brush, and dry grasses
4. With 70% of fire coming from the road, clean to bare ground approximately 15' from the pavement onto your property.

**Thanks for your support to make our community and your property safe from fire**