



FORM 645 WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS REQUIREMENTS AFFIDAVIT

Properties that are located within any State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ), the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone or a Ventura County Fire Protection District (VCFPD) Hazardous Fire Area (HFA) shall meet all the requirements for building construction and defensible space in accordance with State and Local Laws and VCFPD Ordinance.

This affidavit shall be completed by the property owner prior to the issuance of a fire department clearance (Form 610B) for any new building or an addition to an existing building when in a FHSZ/HFA.

1. Defensible Space: All fuels and vegetation within the 100-foot zone are subject to defensible space laws and regulations. This includes ornamental plants, cultivated landscape plants, trees, shrubs, grasses, weeds, and wildland vegetation. Property owners are required to maintain only the portion of the 100-foot defensible space zone that falls upon their property around all buildings and structures. This includes buildings and structures on neighboring properties where the 100-foot zone overlaps property lines. See the Ventura County Wildland-Urban Interface Code (VCWUIC) and VCFD Standard 515.

2. Non-Combustible Zone 0: New Buildings and Additions to Existing Buildings. Effective March 1, 2025, fuels, including combustible materials and vegetation, are prohibited in Zone 0. This applies to all new buildings, additions to existing buildings (the immediate area around the addition only), installation of new landscape, and the review and approval of existing landscape areas within the 100-foot defensible space zone.

3. Review of New & Existing Vegetation for New Construction. When new buildings, including accessory dwelling units (ADU) or additions to existing buildings, are constructed on a parcel, the required 100-foot defensible space zone shall be reviewed for compliance with the VCWUIC and VCFD Standard 515. Vegetation shall be cleared 100 feet prior to construction, and a Landscape Plan Review is required to be submitted to VCFD for approval prior to final occupancy inspection of the building project. This may require modification and or removal of existing vegetation and landscape.

4. Required Plan Review. A fire department plan review is required for all new and existing landscape within the 100-foot zone. If no new landscaping is proposed a plan check is still required and shall show all existing vegetation or lack thereof within 100 feet of all structures. A final fire department landscape site inspection shall be conducted prior to final occupancy inspections of the building project.

5. Replacement Landscaping. All replacement landscaping for existing buildings shall comply with the VCWUIC and VCFD Standard 515. A final fire department landscape site inspection shall be conducted prior to final occupancy inspections of the building project.

6. Recorded Covenant & Agreement. When landscape plans are approved, a covenant and deed restriction shall be recorded upon the parcel utilizing VCFD Form 641 Fuel Modification Covenant & Agreement prior to release of the approved plans. This agreement shall serve to ensure the

continued maintenance of the 100-foot defensible space requirements in Zone 0, Zone 1, and Zone 2 and to advise all future property owners of these requirements.

7. Building Construction. Contact your local building department about building requirements applicable to your project. Non-combustible fencing shall be provided in accordance with the VCWUIC.

Advisory Notice: New State regulations for Zone 0 are currently under development by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. Any future State regulation more restrictive than VCFPD Ordinance or the requirements of VCFD Standard 515 will apply. This may require thinning and or removal of plants, trees, and vegetation, to meet State law.

Questions regarding this document can be sent to FHRP@venturacounty.gov or call the Community Wildfire Preparedness Division at (805) 389-9759.

Actual Form to be completed starts on page 3.

