



**VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU  
165 DURLEY AVENUE  
CAMARILLO, CA 93010  
[www.vcfd.org](http://www.vcfd.org)**

Office: 805-389-9738 Fax: 805-388-4356

## 410 – PROHIBITED PLANT LIST

This list was first published by the VCFD in 2014. It has been updated as of April 2019. It is intended to provide a list of plants and trees that are not allowed within a new required defensible space (DS) or fuel modification zone (FMZ). It is highly recommended that these plants and trees be thinned and or removed from existing DS and FMZs. In certain instances, the Fire Department may require the thinning and or removal.

This list was prepared by Hunt Research Corporation and Dudek & Associates, and reviewed by Scott Franklin Consulting Co, VCFD has added some plants and has removed plants only listed due to freezing hazard. Please see notes after the list of plants.

For questions regarding this list, please contact the Fire Hazard reduction Program (FHRP) Unit at 085-389-9759 or [FHRP@ventura.org](mailto:FHRP@ventura.org)

Prohibited plant list: Botanical Name	Common Name	Comment*
<b>Trees</b>		
<i>Abies species</i>	Fir	F
<i>Acacia species (numerous)</i>	Acacia	F, I
<i>Agonis juniperina</i>	Juniper Myrtle	F
<i>Araucaria species (A. heterophylla, A. araucana, A. bidwillii)</i>	Araucaria (Norfolk Island Pine, Monkey Puzzle Tree, Bunya Bunya)	F
<i>Callistemon species (C. citrinus, C. rosea, C. viminalis)</i>	Bottlebrush (Lemon, Rose, Weeping)	F
<i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>	Incense Cedar	F
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River She-Oak	F
<i>Cedrus species (C. atlantica, C. deodara)</i>	Cedar (Atlas, Deodar)	F
<i>Chamaecyparis species (numerous)</i>	False Cypress	F
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphor	F
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	Japanese Cryptomeria	F
<i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	Leyland Cypress	F
<i>Cupressus species (C. fobesii, C. glabra, C. sempervirens,)</i>	Cypress (Tecate, Arizona, Italian, others)	F
<i>Eucalyptus species (numerous)</i>	Eucalyptus	F, I
<i>Juniperus species (numerous)</i>	Juniper	F
<i>Larix species (L. decidua, L. occidentalis, L. kaempferi)</i>	Larch (European, Japanese, Western)	F
<i>Leptospermum species (L. laevigatum, L. petersonii)</i>	Tea Tree (Australian, Tea)	F
<i>Lithocarpus densiflorus</i>	Tan Oak	F

Prohibited plant list: Botanical Name	Common Name	Comment*
<i>Melaleuca</i> species ( <i>M. linariifolia</i> , <i>M. nesophila</i> , <i>M. quinquenervia</i> )	Melaleuca (Flaxleaf, Pink, Cajeput Tree)	F, I
<i>Olea europea</i>	Olive	I
<i>Picea</i> (numerous)	Spruce	F
<i>Palm</i> species (numerous)	Palm	F, I,
<i>Pinus</i> species ( <i>P. brutia</i> , <i>P. canariensis</i> , <i>P. b. eldarica</i> , <i>P. halepensis</i> , <i>P. pinea</i> , <i>P. radiata</i> , numerous others)	Pine (Calabrian, Canary Island, Mondell, Aleppo, Italian Stone, Monterey)	F
<i>Platyclusus orientalis</i>	Oriental arborvitae	F
<i>Podocarpus</i> species ( <i>P. gracilior</i> , <i>P. macrophyllus</i> , <i>P. latifolius</i> )	Fern Pine (Fern, Yew, Podocarpus)	F
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	Douglas Fir	F
<i>Schinus</i> species ( <i>S. molle</i> , <i>S. terebenthifolius</i> )	Pepper (California and Brazilian)	F, I
<i>Tamarix</i> species ( <i>T. africana</i> , <i>T. aphylla</i> , <i>T. chinensis</i> , <i>T. parviflora</i> )	Tamarix (Tamarisk, Athel Tree, Salt Cedar, Tamarisk)	F, I
<i>Taxodium</i> species ( <i>T. ascendens</i> , <i>T. distichum</i> , <i>T. mucronatum</i> )	Cypress (Pond, Bald, Monarch, Montezuma)	F
<i>Taxus</i> species ( <i>T. baccata</i> , <i>T. brevifolia</i> , <i>T. cuspidata</i> )	Yew (English, Western, Japanese)	F
<i>Thuja</i> species ( <i>T. occidentalis</i> , <i>T. plicata</i> )	Arborvitae/Red Cedar	F
<i>Tsuga</i> species ( <i>T. heterophylla</i> , <i>T. mertensiana</i> )	Hemlock (Western, Mountain)	F
<b>Groundcovers, Shrubs &amp; Vines</b>		
<i>Acacia</i> species	Acacia ( except dwarf/prostrate variety)	F
<i>Adenostoma fasciculatum</i>	Chamise	F
<i>Adenostoma sparsifolium</i>	Red Shanks	F
<i>Agropyron repens</i>	Quackgrass	F, I
<i>Anthemis cotula</i>	Mayweed	F, I
<i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	Madrone	F
<i>Arctostaphylos</i> species	Manzanita. Also note that Eastwood Manzanita grows to 8'	F
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant Reed	F, I
<i>Artemisia</i> species ( <i>A. abrotanium</i> , <i>A. absinthium</i> , <i>A. californica</i> , <i>A. caucasica</i> , <i>A. dracunculus</i> , <i>A. tridentata</i> , <i>A. pynocephala</i> )	Sagebrush (Southernwood, Wormwood, California, Silver, True tarragon, Big, Sandhill)	F
<i>Atriplex</i> species (numerous)**	Saltbush	F, I**
<i>Avena fatua</i>	Wild Oat	F
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	Coyote Bush	F
<i>Bambusa</i> species	Bamboo	F, I
<i>Bougainvillea</i> species	Bougainvillea	F, I, FR
<i>Brassica</i> species ( <i>B. campestris</i> , <i>B. nigra</i> , <i>B. rapa</i> )	Mustard (Field, Black, Yellow) Wild Turnip	F, I

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<i>Bromus rubens</i>	Foxtail, Red brome	F, I
<i>Bromus carinatus</i>	California brome	Grows to 5', Dies if cut
<i>Castanopsis chrysophylla</i>	Giant Chinquapin	F
<i>Cardaria draba</i>	Hoary Cress	I
<i>Carpobrotus species</i>	Ice Plant, Hottentot Fig	I
<i>Ceanothus griseus</i> " Louis Edmunds**	Louis Edmunds Ceanothus	Grow higher than 18"*
<i>Ceanothus griseus var. horizontalis</i> **	Carmel Creeper Ceanothus	Grows higher than 18"***
<i>Ceanothus griseus var. horizontalis</i> "yankee point"*	Yankee Point Ceanothus	Grows higher than 18"***
<i>Ceanothus megacarpus</i> **	Big pod ceanothus	Grows higher than 18"***
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Wild Artichoke	F, I
<i>Codariocalyx motorius</i>	Telegraph Plant	F
<i>Conyza bonariensis</i>	Horseweed	F
<i>Coprosma pumila</i>	Prostrate Coprosma	F
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampas Grass	F, I
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	Scotch Broom	F, I
<i>Delosperma "alba"</i>	White trailing Ice Plant	F
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Hopseed Bush	F
<i>Drosanthemum Floribundum</i>	Rosea Ice plant	F
<i>Eriodictyon californicum</i>	Yerba Santa	F
<i>Eriogonum species (E. fasciculatum)</i>	Buckwheat (California)	F
<i>Fremontodendron species</i>	Flannel Bush	F
<i>Hedera species (H. canariensis, H. helix)</i>	Ivy (Algerian, English)	I
<i>Helix Canariensis</i>	English Ivy	F
<i>Heterotheca grandiflora</i>	Telegraph Plant	F
<i>Hordeum leporinum</i>	Wild barley	F, I
<i>Jasminum humile</i>	Italian Jasmine	F
<i>Juniperus species</i>	Juniper	F
<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	Prickly Lettuce	I
<i>Lamprathus aurantiacus</i>	Bush Ice Plant	F
<i>Lamprathus spectabilis</i>	Trailing Ice Plant	F
<i>Larix species (numerous)</i>	Larch	F
<i>Larrea tridentata</i>	Creosote bush	F
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i>	Peppergrass	F
<i>Leymus condensatus</i>	Giant Wild Rye	Grows to 9' tall
<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>	Ryegrass	F, I
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese Honeysuckle	F
<i>Mahonia species</i>	Mahonia	F
<i>Miscanthus species</i>	Eulalie Grass	F
<i>Muhlenbergia species</i>	Deer Grass	F

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<i>Nassella (stipa) leprida</i>	Foothill needlegrass	Gets to 18" high. Cant cut to 4".
<i>Nassella (stipa) pulchra</i>	Purple needlegrass	Same comment as above
<i>Nerium Oleander</i>	Oleander	Toxic
<i>Nicotiana species (N. bigelovii, N. glauca)</i>	Tobacco (Indian, Tree)	F, I
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain Grass	F, I
<i>Perovskia atroplicifolia</i>	Russian Sage	F
<i>Phoradendron species</i>	Mistletoe	F
<i>Pickeringia montana</i>	Chaparral Pea	F
<i>Plumbago auriculata</i>	Cape Plumbago	F
<i>Rhus (R. diversiloba, R. laurina, R. lentii)**</i>	Sumac (Poison oak, Laurel, Pink Flowering)	F**. Poison oak presents a health hazard
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor Bean	F, I
<i>Rhus Lentii</i>	Pink Flowering Sumac	F
<i>Rosmarinus species</i>	Rosemary ( except dwarf/prostrate variety)	F
<i>Salvia species (numerous)</i>	Sage	F, I
<i>Salsola australis</i>	Russian Thistle	F, I
<i>Senecio serpens</i>	No common name	FR
<i>Solanum Xantii</i>	Purple Nightshade (toxic)	I, Toxic
<i>Solanum Douglasii</i>	Douglas Nightshade	Toxic
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Milk Thistle	F, I
<i>Tecoma capensis</i>	Cape Honeysuckle	F
<i>Thuja species</i>	Arborvitae	F
<i>Urtica urens</i>	Burning Nettle	F
<i>Vinca major</i>	Periwinkle	I

\*F = flammable, I = Invasive,

#### NOTES:

1. Plants on this list that are considered invasive are a partial list of commonly found plants. There are many other plants considered invasive that shall not be planted in a fuel modification zone and they can be found on The California Invasive Plant Council's Website [www.cal-ipc.org/ip/inventory/index.php](http://www.cal-ipc.org/ip/inventory/index.php). Other plants not considered invasive at this time may be determined to be invasive after further study.
2. The absence of a particular plant, shrub, groundcover, or tree, from this list does not necessarily mean it is fire resistive.
3. Native, drought tolerant, plants are encouraged unless they are on this Prohibited Plant list or otherwise known as flammable or Invasive.
4. \*\*: certain species of Ceonothus, Saltbush and Sumac need to be maintained free of dead materials, which builds up in the plant. Remove any poison oak (Sumac).