

September 22, 2014

Calabasas Property Owners and Property Managers

Reference: Notice of Enforcement Activities - Dead Trees on Private Property
Calabasas Municipal Code Chapter 8.20 PUBLIC NUISANCE AND
ABATEMENT

Dear Property Owner or Manager,

One of the most beloved aspects of Calabasas is our beautiful vistas and tree-lined streets.

Unfortunately, the effects of the long drought are taking a toll on trees which do not have ready access to water, as well as those which are not drought tolerant. Species especially vulnerable include pine, liquidambar, sycamore, eucalyptus and ash, which are found in many of the City's private open space areas. Sadly, we are seeing more and more individual trees and groves dying throughout the City. A dead tree poses not only a fire hazard, but also presents a safety risk if it or its limbs should fall.

The Public Nuisance Abatement Ordinance of Calabasas has determined that dead trees present a hazard to residents, and therefore, are a nuisance. Calabasas Municipal Code Section 8.20.040 B. 7. states that it is unlawful for any responsible person to maintain, or to allow another to maintain, property in the city so that any of the following conditions exist thereon:

"...Maintaining or failing to maintain property so as to allow dead, decayed, diseased or hazardous trees, weeds or overgrown vegetation, cultivated or uncultivated, except as otherwise regulated by Section 17.26.070 of this code regarding oak trees..."

If you have dead trees, please take steps to remove them prior to the City's initiation of enforcement efforts. Not only will you be complying with City codes, you will be doing your part to keep our City safe and beautiful. Remember that oak trees are protected under City ordinances, so if you believe or suspect that the dead tree in question is an oak tree; please contact a City Planner at (818) 224-1600 to discuss the necessary permits for its removal.

September 3, 2014
Notice of Code Enforcement: Dead Trees on Private Property

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Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Maureen Tamuri, AIA, AICP
Community Development Director
City of Calabasas

Cc: Steve Ball, Landscape District Manager