



2023 BRUSH INSPECTIONS

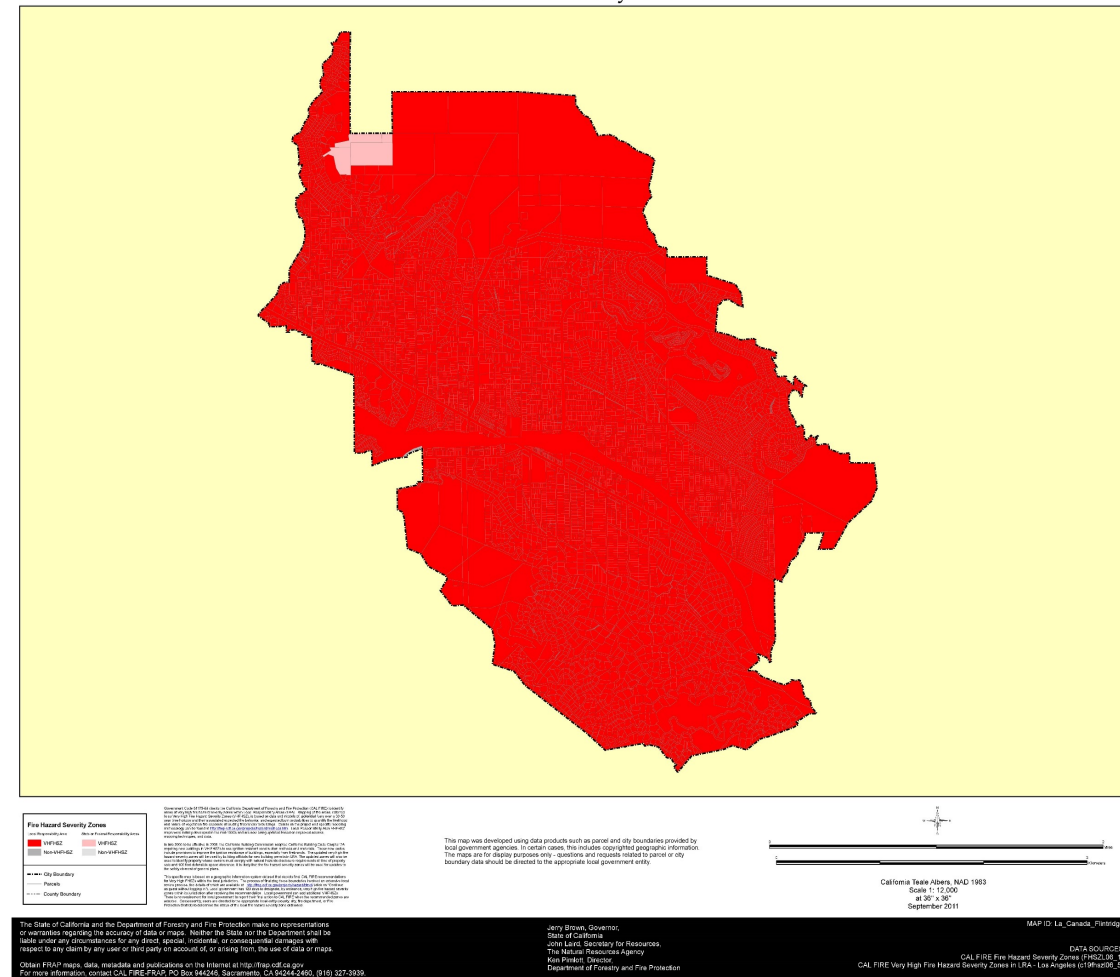
LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE

La Canada Flintridge

Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA
As Recommended by CAL FIRE

As you can see, virtually all of the City of La Cañada Flintridge lies within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, with a very small portion in the High Zone.

Brush inspections are required for homes (single family dwellings) in both HIGH and VERY HIGH zones.



DETERMINATION OF FIRE ZONES

- ❖ Fire Zones are determined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
- ❖ Mapping for High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones indicates the potential fire hazard of an area of land based on several factors:
 - ❖ Vegetation
 - ❖ Topography
 - ❖ Worst Case Weather Conditions
 - ❖ Fire History
 - ❖ Predicted Flame Lengths
 - ❖ Burn Probability
 - ❖ **Ember Cast**

WOOLSEY FIRE



Courtesy of The Signal

BOBCAT FIRE



Courtesy of The Asthma Files



Getty Images



BRUSH CLEARANCE

- ❖ Brush clearance does NOT mean that you have to remove your trees!
 - ❖ More likely, you will simply need to limb the tree and remove all dead materials.
 - ❖ It is extremely rare that we require removal of any tree.
- ❖ Brush clearance is intended to properly manage your landscaping.
- ❖ Brush clearance does require the removal of all dead material within 100 feet of the home (up to 200' in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones).

PREPARING FOR YOUR INSPECTION

Following these key steps, prior to May 1, will best prepare your property for inspection:

- ❖ Limb up trees 1/3 of the height of the tree, or 6', whichever is LESS.
 - ❖ (e.g. trees that are 18' or taller should be limbed up 6' from the ground; trees that are 12' in height should be limbed up 4' from the ground, etc.)
 - ❖ Trees must also be pruned back to provide a 5' minimum separation from the roof.
- ❖ Remove all dead wood/dead material.
- ❖ Vines and climbing plants must be removed from any structure.
- ❖ Ground cover must be maintained at a maximum height of 18" and be kept free of dead material.

When firefighters inspect your property, they will then advise if any further action will need to be taken, after which you will have 30 days to make any corrections noted.

BRUSH CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS (detailed)

- ❖ Removal of flammable vegetation within 30' of any structure (50' in Very High zones). **This does NOT mean complete removal of trees!!!**
- ❖ Specimen native trees and shrubs are permitted, provided they are spaced to not allow transmission of fire to a structure.
- ❖ Remaining vegetation for the next 70', for a total of 100', shall be limbed and include removal of any dead wood. (Maximum of 200' can be required in Very High zones.)
- ❖ Access roads must maintain 10' of brush clearance on each side, and shall maintain adequate vertical clearance.
- ❖ Fire hydrants shall maintain clearance of 3'.
- ❖ Zone 0 (5' Ember Resistant Zone) – removal of any flammable materials within 5' of any structure. **Enforcement of this particular requirement will begin in 2024.**

CONCLUSION

- ❖ Our Brush Inspection Program (Defensible Space Program) is intended to keep our residents safe and protect property.
- ❖ Additionally, defensible space gives our firefighters the opportunity to safely defend structures in wind driven fires.
- ❖ Brush Inspections in the City of La Cañada Flintridge are due to begin on May 1.
- ❖ Los Angeles County Fire will continue to educate our residents regarding wildfire resilience and assist our residents through this program.

QUESTIONS COMMENTS
