



Fire Hazards - Vegetation and Exterior Property Areas

All properties in unincorporated King County must be maintained in a condition that is not a nuisance to the community. Nuisances are conditions that present a threat to public health, safety, and the environment.

King County does not have specific requirements for cutting lawns or trimming vegetation. However, if the cutting and trimming of lawns and vegetation are neglected it can create fire hazards in the summer. These conditions are legally prohibited and must be corrected.

The International Fire Code Section 304.1.2, 2021 edition, requires that you remove combustible vegetation, (including cut or uncut weeds, grass, tree limbs, branches, and other debris). Under Title 16.14.460 of the King County Code - failure to do so may subject the property owner to civil penalties.

For questions regarding the Fire Code, please email fmo.dper@kingcounty.gov or call 206-296-6675.

All other clearing restrictions such as within wetland and stream buffers must be observed. If you have concerns regarding these critical areas please contact the King County Department of Local Services, Permitting Division at 206-296-6600 for further information.

To register your concerns about hazards at a property in unincorporated King County: contact our Code Enforcement Section by leaving an online complaint on our [code enforcement](#) web page or by calling 206-296-6680.

Additional Resources:

King County [Department of Local Services, Permitting](#)

[Permits – customer services](#)

[Safety Burn Bans](#)

[Code Enforcement](#)