

# Wildfire Hazards and Brush Management in Pitkin County



Contact: Pitkin County Community Development: 970-920-5526 for more information.

## Pitkin County Community Development

### Wildfire:

All removals of live trees require County review and approval, and in most cases, shall only take place within an approved Activity Envelope.

Each tree with a six (6) inch or larger 'Diameter at Breast Height' (D.B.H.) removed within an Activity Envelope shall be replaced with one (1) or more trees having a total D.B.H. equal to at least the caliper(s) of the tree(s) removed. See §7-20-10 of the County Land Use Code for details.

Clearing or grubbing of land, or removal of vegetation and in some instances individual tree removal requires an earth moving permit and revegetation plan/tree mitigation plan and shall take place only within an approved Activity Envelope. Refer to the Earthmoving Informational Sheet for additional information.



### Brush Management

Contact a Zoning Officer with the following:

- ▲ Site Plan showing existing development and trees to be removed.
- ▲ Address or Parcel I.D. Number and previous land use approvals.
- ▲ Number, type and size of trees to be removed.
- ▲ Plan for tree replacement and/or revegetation of the site.
- ▲ Photographs are always helpful!

### Mountain Pine Beetle



The *selective* removal or trimming of dead, diseased or damaged trees or other woody vegetation that constitutes a significant and direct hazard to persons or property, is allowed pursuant to Sections 4-30-20 and 7-20-10 of the Land Use Code. Written confirmation from a Certified Arborist or recognized tree/forestry expert may be required.

### Things to remember:

- Clear cutting or other large scale removal of trees/vegetation, shall be prohibited without special review.
- Planning All wildfire mitigation must be approved by the Pitkin County Community Development Department prior to tree removal, even when recommended by a wildfire expert or State Forester.
- Special areas have special rules:  
Redstone / Scenic View Planes / Slopes greater than 15%  
Critical habitats including *streams / wetlands / riparian* or *wildlife areas*.

Information subject to change without notice. Reference the Pitkin County Land Use Code for all legal matters and information regarding specific details.

### Additional Info:

- Financial security for revegetation/restoration may be required
- Revegetation and reforestation shall be completed during the first planting season after disruption and shall utilize native materials.
- Modification to approved Landscape Plans requires a formal amendment.

### Resource Links:

Land Use Code: <http://www.aspenpitkin.com/Portals/0/docs/county/countycode/>  
Chapter 7: 7-20-60 WILDFIRE HAZARDS

### DISCLAIMER:

The information in this handout is from Chapters 4 & 7 of the 2006 Pitkin County Land Use Code. This handout is intended to provide a general overview of its subject matter. In all cases the Land Use Code should be consulted for more information on the topics subscribed herein.

### Community Development

130 South Galena Street

Third Floor

Aspen, Colorado 81611

Phone: 970-920-5526

FAX: 970-920-5439

[www.aspenpitkin.com](http://www.aspenpitkin.com)