



Fire hazards – vegetation or 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/or trimming of lawns and vegetation are neglected it may create fire hazards during summer months. These conditions are prohibited by Code and must be corrected.

The International Fire Code Section 304.1.2 requires that combustible vegetation, (including cut or uncut weeds, grass, tree limbs, branches, and other debris) be removed. 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, you can contact our office at 206-296-6600 or via email at PermitQuestions@kingcounty.gov.

All other clearing restrictions, such as within wetland and stream buffers, must be observed. If you have concerns regarding these critical areas please contact King County Permits at 206-296-6600 for more information.

To register your concerns about hazards at a property within unincorporated King County you may call the Code Enforcement Section at 206-296-6680. You may also leave a complaint on our online [permitting web portal](https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/buildings-property/codes-complaints/code-enforcement) (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/buildings-property/codes-complaints/code-enforcement>).

Online resources

[King County Permits](https://kingcounty.gov/permitting) (kingcounty.gov/permitting)

- [Location and contact information](https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/certificates-permits-licenses/permits/permit-customer-services) (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/certificates-permits-licenses/permits/permit-customer-services>)
- [Permit fees](https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/certificates-permits-licenses/permits/permits-inspections-codes-buildings-land-use) (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/certificates-permits-licenses/permits/permits-inspections-codes-buildings-land-use>)
- [Fire safety burn bans](https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/governance-leadership/local-government-for-unincorporated-king-county/fire-safety) (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/governance-leadership/local-government-for-unincorporated-king-county/fire-safety>)
- [Code enforcement](https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/buildings-property/codes-complaints/code-enforcement) (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/buildings-property/codes-complaints/code-enforcement>)