

**1. Care and Use of Pruning Equipment used on Fountaingrove II Native Plants and Trees**

- a. **Use of Loppers and Hand Saws:** When doing fuel reduction work or structural pruning of native plants, work will be done by hand pruners or loppers up to 3/4" to 1" in diameter. Hand saws can be used from this diameter up to 2" to 2 1/2 in size, depending upon the hardness of the wood.
- b. **Use of Chain Saws:** Chain saws can be used for the branches in excess of 2" – 2 1/2" in diameter.
- c. **Use of Mechanical Blades: Powered hedge trimmers or mechanical blades will not be used** to remove branches, or prune native plants, including instances where Chaparral or Invasive Plants are being removed near native plants. Use of such equipment to remove invasives or any other plant material will require the approval of OSMA. Power mowers or steel blades are controlled because OSMA wants to protect: (1) endangered plants, (2) native plants for screening, (3) habitat for animals and birds, (4) the area as an attractive setting, and (5) against a spark hitting one of the many rocks in the area that could start a fire.
- d. **Vendors will use Sharp and Clean Tools when making pruning cuts:** Equipment used to prune native plants or trees will be sharp and kept clean. Care of pruning tools and their usage to make cuts will protect the plant to keep it healthy. Practices will follow ANSI A300 recommended standards.
- e. **Making Proper Pruning Cuts with Clean Equipment:** When pruning trees and plants, vendor will follow the ANSI A300 standards to maintain vegetation in a natural and healthy state. Vendor will ensure it cleans any tools used on diseased plants or trees, before it uses such tools on healthy plants.

**2. SOD precautions for pruning Oaks, Bays and other plants than can transmit SOD to Oaks susceptible to Sudden Oak Death Syndrome**

- a. OSMA has the authority under its Design Program for Maintaining Open Space amended July 7, 2011 to remove California Bays in excess of 6" DBH, if a Qualified Authority recommends and certifies such action to protect healthy Oaks such as Live Oaks. OSMA plans to continue its research of what steps it can take to preserve Oaks while at the same time maintaining a biodiverse habitat for the California bay tree.
- b. Pruning of Bays and Oaks with the same equipment will be closely monitored, as well as the practices for transporting limbs and their disposal by removing offsite or chipping onsite. It will be investigated whether weather should be considered, and if treatment of Oaks and Bays should be done at a different time of the year. Since SOD can be transmitted by water and air, these factors needs to be considered when working on Bays and Oaks susceptible to SOD.
- c. Vendor and OSMA will have an action plan in place before any pruning is done on Oak or Bay trees, and any chipping is performed on the pruning or tree work associated with such trees.

**3. Spraying or Chemical Treatment Guidelines for Open Space to protect Native Plants, Soil and Waterways**

- a. Use of Chemicals is strictly controlled on Open Space to ensure there is no overspray to adjacent plants, contamination of the soil or waterways, or damage to the ecosystem supporting plants and animals.
- b. Chemicals will not be used to kill plants, including invasive plants, without OSMA written approval.
- c. OSMA will approve the chemical formula (type and strength), application procedure, and Vendor's plan for applying and supervising the chemical.
- d. Vendor shall be properly licensed, and operate to a written chemical application procedure.
- e. If Vendor is authorized to use chemicals, or spray, they will use a green dye marker so application of their work can be checked to ensure it was not randomly/accidentally applied to native plants and grasses, or the spraying was conducted on windy days that would cause overspray.

Vendor Initial \_\_\_\_\_