



Perris News

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Cleanup Efforts Remove Fire Hazards and Beautify the City

City work crews have declared war on weeds and dead brush throughout Perris, removing tons of debris from medians and rights-of-way as summer with its triple-digit temperatures and increasing fire hazards approaches.

The efforts by Perris Public Works employees and City contractors are part of multi-faceted approach on blight throughout the community. Ongoing weed abatement efforts coincide with a push by Code Enforcement officers and Perris Police to identify and punish graffiti taggers and put illegal street vendors out of business.

City officials say with the arrival of summer, it is important to keep Perris looking as good as possible, as thousands of visitors flock to the Perris Valley Airport for world-class skydiving, take in the racing action at the Perris Auto Speedway and play in and on the water at the Lake Perris State Recreation Area. Weeds are not only unsightly. They serve as homes for rodents. When they dry out, weeds and brush can get on fire from an errant spark and go up in flames.

While City workers are concentrating on weeds on public property, Perris officials are urging owners of private property to remove dead brush as well. If left untended, the City will remove debris and charge property owners to cover its costs.

Perris work crews have already targeted many of the City's main thoroughfares, including Ramona Expressway, Evans Road, Rider Street, Perris Boulevard and Case Road. They've also removed weeds and brush from several Downtown corridors, including D Street, San Jacinto Avenue and G Street.

Contract workers spent this week hauling away dead debris from Ramona Expressway near the Perris Auto Speedway.

"Our City is committed to being proactive when it comes to removing blight, including weeds," said Mayor Daryl Busch. "It is very beneficial to clean up and beautify our City. I think the ongoing efforts are great."
City Councilman Mark Yarbrough said weed abatement contributes to property values, aesthetics and image.

"We will have a lot of visitors in town this summer and we want things to look nice," Yarbrough said. "I appreciate the commercial property owners who have stepped up to clean their property. City crews are doing a good job to make the medians look nicer. In this economy, things are very challenging, but we are stepping up to meet that challenge."

Councilman Al Landers, who started Community Pride Week when he was Mayor from 1997-1999, said he thinks Perris residents are taking that sentiment to heart.

"I have never seen the City look so good," Landers said. "Our beautification efforts are working. There is definitely a sense that things are looking up in Perris. To think that we are accomplishing this with a small staff during these times makes the accomplishment all that more significant."



A City contractor scoops up dead weeds and brush from Ramona Expressway.



City crews are working with contractors to remove dead brush from major thoroughfares, including Perris Boulevard, Evans Road and Ramona Expressway.