

SMITH RIVER RANCHERIA  
TRIBAL MAINTENANCE POLICY  
YARD VEGETATION ABATEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (YVAP)

Policy Description

The Smith River Rancharia Maintenance Department may be available annually to provide yard vegetation abatement for Tribal Elders/Handicap depending on time and resources of the Tribe. The properties that may be eligible for assistance reside in the Maintenance service area owned by the Tribal Elder/Handicap person. The following policy will describe the eligibility requirements for yard maintenance assistance. This policy only applies to properties that are not owned by the Smith River Rancharia. Time of abatement depends on the department's resources available in accordance to their work schedule, when the elder does not have a household member or current resident of the property (other than the Tribal Elder) who is capable of performing the yard vegetation abatement services.

Definitions

**Maintenance Service Area** – For purposes of this policy, Maintenance Service Area is defined as the geographic area located within, or adjacent to, the following borders:  
Smith River, Crescent City, Brookings and Gasquet.  
**Yard Vegetation Abatement** – Typically consists of mowing lawns, trimming of hedges and removal of excess vegetations. -Yard maintenance does not include any form of trash removal or disposal.  
**Tribal Elder/Handicap person** – Enrolled SRR Tribal Member who has attained the age of 65 or a medically verified physical handicap, disability, or illness that prevents or makes it unreasonably difficult to perform yard maintenance.

Eligibility – Property

- 1) Property must be located within the Tribal Maintenance Service area.
- 2) Tribal Elder/Handicap person must be the primary owner and current resident of the property.
- 3) Portion of property to be maintained cannot exceed ¼ of an acre approximately (100' X 100') and must be inclusive to the residence.
- 4) Property must be reasonably accessible for maintenance personnel and their equipment.

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**Request for Assistance**

- 1) Request can be made at the Guschu Tribal Office in person, by phone, or by filling out an YVAAP request form. The request will be logged and forwarded to the Facilities Manager.

**Scheduling and Availability of Assistance**

- 1) Scheduling for YVAAP services will be subject to availability of resources as determined by the Facilities Manager and will be performed on an as needed basis, not to exceed monthly service, in a timely fashion.
- 2) ~~YVAAP will be limited to once in a calendar year, unless an emergency deems up to twice in a calendar year.~~
- 3) Once a date and time is determined the Facilities Manager will confirm appointment with Tribal Elder/Handicap member.
- 4) In the event that maintenance resources cannot accommodate all requests for assistance then the Facilities Manager will prioritize and allocate available assistance with physical need of the Tribal Member being the highest priority.

**Dispute Resolution Denial of Assistance**

- 1) The Facilities Manager will report any denial of assistance to Tribal Elder/**Handicap** member under this policy to the Tribal Administrator.

~~2) Tribal Elder may be denied should their calendar year YVAAP has been performed.~~

Tribal Elder/**Handicap person** may be denied if unsafe conditions exist on the property such as animals, toxic waste, etc.

1. Any verbal or physical threats, disrespectful demands (depending on the severity) to Smith River Rancheria employees may result in loss of services. In the event of an incident, a warning letter will be sent to the Tribal Elder/Handicap member explaining the consequences of their inappropriate behavior. If any threats happen again, services shall be discontinued.

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