



## Hurstville City Council

### Tree Pruning & Removal Guidelines

#### PURPOSE

These guidelines and information relate to Council's Tree Preservation Order and specifically address the assessment and processing of applications for permits under the Order.

#### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Where the Tree Preservation Order requires approval to prune and/or remove trees, the relevant Development Application form is to be completed and submitted, along with the applicable fee, and accompanied by the supporting information referred to below.

- No works are to be undertaken prior to Council approval being granted
- Approval is valid for 12 months from the date of consent
- Any approval given by Council to remove trees may be subject to conditions requiring the planting of replacement trees on the subject land in a more suitable location.








*Note: If approval to remove trees is required in conjunction with the erection of a dwelling, this should be clearly identified within the building application to Council.*

For applications involving removal of up to 10 trees, the assessment may be prepared by the applicant. However, depending upon the number and type of trees to be removed and available records on the occurrence of threatened species, Council reserves the right to require the lodgement of a comprehensive threatened species impact assessment prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced consultant.

#### DETERMINATION OF APPLICATION

Council will take into consideration the objectives of the Tree Preservation Order, Council's decision will be provided in writing.

#### The following reasons are NOT adequate justification to remove trees:

-  **VIEW:** Pruning and/or removal of trees to optimise or enhance a view or outlook
-  **SHADE:** This is not considered a valid reason for removal, however in a case where medical documentation is submitted stating that tree-shade to a property is detrimental to a person's health, then selective crown thinning of tree/s may be permitted
-  **LEAF OR TWIG FALL:** This is not regarded as sufficient reason to prune and/or remove trees
-  **MINOR DAMAGE:** Tree is causing minor damage to property eg. driveways.
-  **PERSONAL CONCERNS:** There are unsubstantiated personal concerns about the stability of large trees.
-  **BLOCKED PIPES:** Tree is causing blockages to pipes.
-  **VACANT LAND:** A healthy tree on vacant residential zoned land well clear of boundaries and no building work has been approved.

### **Approval Conditions**

When tree pruning / removal is approved, the following conditions may be imposed:

- Approval is valid for 12 months from date of approval.
- Pruning to be carried out in accordance with Australian Standard *AS4373-1996 Pruning Amenity Trees*.
- Approval is subject to the establishment of replacement tree/s species at an appropriate location.

### **Other Requirements**

- Where an application is to remove a tree that is alleged to be dying, the applicant may be requested to submit a report supporting this claim from a suitably qualified person experienced in the horticultural field, at no cost to Council.
- Where an application is to remove a tree that is suspected to be causing structural, mechanical or other damage, the applicant may be requested to submit a report from a suitably qualified person with demonstrated experience in the engineering field, at no cost to Council.
- Where an application is to prune and/or remove a tree, and the stated reasons do not satisfy the provisions of Council's Tree Preservation Order then Council may request that the applicant submit a report from a suitably qualified Arborist. In this case it is the applicant's responsibility to provide sufficient evidence to justify the removal of a tree.
- Council may approve the removal of a tree where the Arborist report, based on sound horticultural and arboricultural principles, recommends the removal of a tree outside the provisions of Council's Tree Preservation Order.

**Note:** Council will only consider Arborist Reports from persons suitably qualified and experienced in the field of Arboriculture.

- Any approval issued to prune and/or remove trees must be retained by the applicant so it can be presented to the authorised Council officer on demand.
- In the event that tree removal contractors are engaged to carry out the works on private property, it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that Work Cover requirements are adhered to and the contractor's insurance policies are current.

### **Appeals**

An applicant dissatisfied with a decision of Council may pursue the matter through either of the following avenues:

- Request, by appropriate application form and applicable fee, a review of the decision, only with submission of a relevant report and if not resolved then, seek a further review of the decision by having the matter reported to Council.
- Appeal to the Land and Environment Court pursuant to Section 97 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

### **REPLACEMENT TREE SPECIES**

When considering planting any tree species in urban situations, please consult a reputable reference publication to obtain the mature dimensions and other information relating to a tree species. Energy Australia recommends that you do not plant any tree under powerlines

## TREES SUITABLE FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

### Key

**Bold** text - Species used for street tree planting

\* - Deciduous

### Indigenous Trees (all wards)

| Botanic Name                           | Common Name                |
|--|----------------------------|
| <i>Acmena smithii</i>                  | Lilly Pilly                |
| <b>Angophora bakeri</b>                | <b>Narrow-leaved Apple</b> |
| <b>Angophora costata</b>               | <b>Sydney Red Gum</b>      |
| <i>Angophora floribunda</i>            | Rough-barked Apple         |
| <i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>           | Grey Myrtle                |
| <b>Banksia serrata</b>                 | <b>Old Man Banksia</b>     |
| <i>Callicoma serratifolia</i>          | Black Wattle               |
| <i>Casuarina glauca</i>                | Swamp Oak                  |
| <i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>          | Coachwood                  |
| <b>Ceratopetalum gummiferum</b>        | <b>NSW Christmas Bush</b>  |
| <b>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</b>         | <b>Blueberry Ash</b>       |
| <i>Eucalyptus capitellata</i>          | Brown Stringybark          |
| <i>Eucalyptus globoidea</i>            | White Stringybark          |
| <i>Eucalyptus gummifera</i>            | Red Bloodwood              |
| <i>Eucalyptus haemastoma/haemarac</i>  | Scribbly Gum               |
| <i>Eucalyptus longifolia</i>           | Woollybutt                 |
| <i>Eucalyptus maculata</i>             | Spotted Gum                |
| <i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i>           | Grey Ironbark              |
| <i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i>            | Blackbutt                  |
| <i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>             | Grey Gum                   |
| <i>Eucalyptus resinifera</i>           | Red Mahogany               |
| <i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>         | Forest Red Gum             |
| <i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>           | Cheese Tree                |
| <b>Leptospermum laevigatum (small)</b> | <b>Coast Tea Tree</b>      |
| <i>Melaleuca armillaris (small)</i>    | Bracelet Honey Myrtle      |
| <b>Syncarpia glomulifera</b>           | <b>Turpentine</b>          |
| <i>Syzygium spp</i>                    | Lilly Pilly                |

### Native Trees (all wards)

| Botanic Name                           | Common Name            |
|--|------------------------|
| <b>Agonis flexuosa</b>                 | <b>Willow Myrtle</b>   |
| <i>Backhousia citriodora</i>           | Lemon Scented Myrtle   |
| <i>Banksia integrifolia</i>            | Coast Banksia          |
| * <i>Brachychiton acerifolia</i>       | Illawarra Flame Tree   |
| <b>Buckinghamia celsissima (small)</b> | <b>Ivory Curl Tree</b> |
| <i>Callitris species</i>               | Port Jackson Pine      |
| <i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i>            | Red Flowering Gum      |
| <b>Eucalyptus scoparia</b>             | <b>Willow Gum</b>      |

|                                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</b>         | <b>Mugga Ironbark</b>  |
| Hymenosporum flavum                   | Native Frangipani      |
| Leptospermum petersonii (small)       | Lemon Scented Tea Tree |
| Livistona australis                   | Cabbage Tree Palm      |
| <b>Lophostemon confertus</b>          | <b>Brush Box</b>       |
| <b>Macadamia integrifolia (small)</b> | <b>Macadamia</b>       |
| Stenocarpus sinuatus                  | Firewheel Tree         |
| <b>Tristaniaopsis laurina (small)</b> | <b>Water Gum</b>       |

**Exotic Trees** (Hurstville and Penshurst Wards only)

| <b>Botanic Name</b>                    | <b>Common Name</b>               |
|--|----------------------------------|
| *Acer species                          | Maple                            |
| Arbutus unedo                          | Strawberry Tree                  |
| Archontophoenix cunninghamii           | Bangalow Palm                    |
| *Betula species                        | Birch                            |
| Calodendrum capense                    | Cape Chestnut                    |
| <b>*Fraxinus 'Raywood'</b>             | <b>Claret Ash</b>                |
| <b>Fraxinus griffithii (small)</b>     | <b>Himalayan Ash</b>             |
| Gingko biloba                          | Maidenhair Tree                  |
| <b>Gordonia axillaris (small)</b>      | <b>Gordonia</b>                  |
| <b>*Lagerstroemia indica (small)</b>   | <b>Crepe Myrtle</b>              |
| *Liriodendron tulipifera               | Tulip Tree                       |
| Magnolia grandiflora                   | Bull-bay Magnolia                |
| Metrosideros excelsa                   | NZ Christmas Tree                |
| Michelia figo                          | Port Wine Magnolia               |
| Phoenix canariensis                    | Date Palm                        |
| <b>*Pistacia chinensis</b>             | <b>Chinese Pistachio</b>         |
| *Quercus palustris                     | Pin Oak                          |
| *Quercus robur                         | English Oak                      |
| <b>*Robinia pseudoacacia 'Frisia'</b>  | <b>Golden Robinia</b>            |
| <b>*Robinia pseudoacacia 'Imernis'</b> | <b>Robinia 'Mop Top' (small)</b> |
| *Schinus molle/areira                  | Peppercorn Tree                  |
| <b>*Ulmus species</b>                  | <b>Elm</b>                       |

**UNSUITABLE TREES**

Replacement or new plantings should not include plants listed below or any plants identified as noxious weeds.

| <b>Common Name</b>  | <b>Botanical Name</b>          | <b>Reason</b>      |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Norfolk Island Pine | <i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>  | Large mature size  |
| Camphor Laurel      | <i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>     | Large mature size  |
| Paperbark           | <i>Melaleuca quinquinervia</i> | Large mature size  |
| White Cedar         | <i>Melia azadarach</i>         | Toxic fruit        |
| Radiata Pine        | <i>Pinus radiata</i>           | Large mature size  |
| Plane Tree          | <i>Plantanus</i>               | Large mature size  |
| Poplar Species      | <i>Populus species</i>         | Invasive roots     |
| Chinese Tallowood   | <i>Sapium sebiferum</i>        | Environmental weed |