

# Significant Tree Register



City of Ryde

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## **CONTENTS**

- **Introduction and Background**
- **Purpose of register**
- **Protocol requirements**
- **Categories and Significance**
- **Assessment Criteria**
- **Responsibilities after registration**
- **Information to be available to the applicant**
- **Expert panel – experience and personnel**
- **Fees**
- **Liaisons and meetings**
- **Significant Tree Register Listing**
- **Significant Tree Register Nomination Form**



Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) -a significant street tree in West Ryde

## **INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND**

- Council has acknowledged through consultation and input from numerous sources, both public and private, that there are a very large number of trees worthy of a category of significance which occur within the City of Ryde.
- As such, a Register is to be created to document those trees adopted by Council for entry on to the register. This document will be known as the 'Significant Tree Register' (STR). It will be available only to cover trees wholly within the area comprising the Local Government area of the City of Ryde.
- For the purpose of this register, 'significant trees' may be either classified as a single tree or a larger grouping of trees. They may possess values relating to their visual, historic, botanical, cultural, commemorative or other significance as defined in the approved category list shown in this document.
- Council presently administers the protection of all trees in private property within the City of Ryde under a Tree Preservation Order excepting where a number of exempt situations or tree species have been approved.
- The Tree Preservation Order seeks to prevent the unauthorised removal, lopping, topping, damage or wilful destruction of any tree over five (5) metres in height without the written consent of Council.
- Within the Ryde City area, on both private and public lands, Council and the general public are aware of many trees that have importance and significance well beyond the scope of a general Tree Preservation Order.
- Through the Register, Council intends to compile and use information to better conserve trees of a significant category where nominations are successfully supported by the property owner or by Council adoption.
- Currently trees in streets and parks are maintained by Council or in some cases by other interested authorities such as Energy Australia. However, a large number of those trees are worthy of inclusion on a register. Successful nominations for those trees are also to be included in the general register.

## **PURPOSE OF THE REGISTER**

- This is required so that the Council of the City of Ryde will have a single Register of all Significant Trees within the City.
- Information gathered regarding trees successfully placed on the Register will be used by Council to promote community awareness and ensure better methods of protection, care and management of its Significant Trees in the future.
- The Register will permit the inclusion of Significant Trees within the City on both private and public lands.
- It will contain a detailed database for each listed tree or group of trees with recommendations for their protection and future management.
- The Register along with its standardised assessment criteria will provide a consistent and analytical approach to maximise its value as a suitable reference document for other interested parties.
- The listing of trees on the Register does not mean that no work can be undertaken or that removal is necessarily prohibited. Approval for minor pruning works will be processed via the Council's usual tree management system although requests for removals will only be approved as a Council resolution.
- Nominations may be received for any trees within the City of Ryde however listing of trees will require application of a process explained later in this document and ultimately a resolution by Council.

## **PROTOCOL REQUIREMENTS**

Having regard to the rights of the citizens of the City of Ryde, Council proposes a set standard of protocols for the nomination and assessment of a tree for inclusion in the Register.

These protocols only apply to individual tree/site nominations. Where a tree/s is identified as significant on a site subject to a Development Application, the development assessment process will be applied.

Council staff, upon receipt of the nomination on the approved application form, will be required to undertake the following tasks:

- Notify owner by letter with reason(s) for nomination as well as category of nomination within two weeks of receipt of notification.
- Notify owners of residences which immediately abut the property in question and the Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society.
- Allow twenty-eight (28) days for receipt of objections/submissions
- Conduct an on-site physical examination of the tree(s) in relation to their natural occurrence, age, cultural history, or other identified or nominated category. (refer to checklist in appendices).
- Report on significance via approved form (see appendices). Support this information where possible from the gathering of reports, photographs, newspaper articles, archival material and oral evidence from relevant public authorities, local property owners, local history and community groups.
- Following initial assessment, parties affected are to be notified of whether or not the tree is considered to be significant
- If there are no objections from the owner or immediate adjoining residences, or the Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society a recommendation is to be made to Council to place the tree on the register.
- If significance is found but the owner or immediate adjoining residents, or the Ryde Hunters Hill Flora and Fauna Preservation Society object the matter is to be referred to an expert panel for additional assessment and report.
- The recommendations of the expert panel will be referred to Council for consideration via a report.
- Affected parties will be invited to address Council to discuss their case.
- Council will adjudicate and make a final determination in the matter via Council resolution.
- All interested parties will be notified of Council's determination.
- Nominations may be received from Council staff, owner or a third party not necessarily residing in the City of Ryde.
- Nominations must be on the standard form.
- Forms will be available from; Customer Service  
Libraries  
Parks  
Council's Web site

## **CATEGORIES AND SIGNIFICANCE**

Collected data is to be evaluated on the basis of each tree's relationship to other similar trees and its relative importance in terms of the following categories and where appropriate any sub-categories criteria:

### **Primary selection categories are to be listed as**

- **Heritage**
- **Botanical/Horticultural**
- **Urban Forest Community**
- **Other**

**Sub categories** will be for a more detailed assessment either supported by Council searches or as supplementary information provided by the nominee or other interested persons.

#### □ **HERITAGE PLANTING**

- Aboriginal significance
- European significance
- Historical significance
- Commemorative significance

#### □ **BOTANIC / HORTICULTURAL**

- Significant contribution to a flora/fauna habitat or corridor
- Rare or uncommon species
- Unusual growth form
- Visual or aesthetic qualities

#### □ **URBAN FOREST COMMUNITY**

- local and/or verge groupings

#### □ **OTHER CATEGORY THAT MAY APPLY**

- Landmark importance
- Scientific values
- Potential future heritage value

## **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

- As part of the nomination process, Council will require information from applicants on the appropriate nomination form (see appendices). This requires identifying where known, the comparative points of importance such as origin (indigenous or cultivated), rarity, individual and/or group value, landmark importance, representative value. The information relating to a tree listed on the Significant Tree register will be entered into Council's Authority system and be linked to the relevant property for future assessment of Local Development Applications, Tree Management Applications or other works requiring approval.
- The Register will include the following verifiable assessment details for each tree listing:
  - Date, tree location (preferably by GPS co-ordinates) and a full property description (public or private lands), ownership/management and references to other listings (eg. National Trust of NSW), where applicable.
  - Photographic record linked to an appropriate scaled map reference;
  - Detailed description of location, with references to tree canopy extent and root zone in relation to neighbouring properties especially where development on adjoining property could affect the tree.
  - Number of listed trees and significance attributes.
  - Full botanical description including botanical and common names.
  - Local names if applicable.
  - Origin, height, canopy spread and trunk diameter.
  - Horticultural condition/health report and estimated age.

Also to be included is a Statement of Significance - a description outlining the reasons for significance which is a brief summary and should, where possible, or known include;

- identification of possible threats and problems;
- recommendations for management and/or remedial treatment;

The applicant should provide an introduction and background summary to the tree in order to define the relationship of the proposed Significant Trees within the local environment. Particular emphasis should be placed on the occurrence of natural remnant trees and the extent of cultural plantings associated with historic development within the Ryde City area.

Data entries will also be cross-referenced to ensure better management and protection of trees, eg. Historic or natural groupings spanning separate property listings or individual trees growing on property boundaries.

## **INFORMATION TO BE AVAILABLE TO THE APPLICANT**

The following information should be made available to the applicant, subject to, where applicable, any of Council's Management Plan fees.

- Council's local history collection (Ryde Library);
- Council's Heritage Inventory (as well as information held by NSW Heritage Council and National Trust of NSW);
- Council's City Planning maps or aerial photos.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER REGISTRATION**

After a tree/s has/have been adopted by Council for inclusion on the Register there are a number of responsibilities both for Council and the owner of the tree regarding the maintenance and preservation of the listed tree.

### **Owner's Responsibilities**

- Owner's would be expected to maintain and preserve the listed tree.
- Council will require a Tree Management Application from the owner for any routine maintenance works, such as pruning however the application fee will be waived in this instance.
- Where development of a site requires the removal of a listed tree, the removal will be considered as part of the assessment of the Local Development Application. Such applications will be referred to Urban Landscape Services for comment.
- In situations where an owner wishes to remove a listed tree, (but removal is not necessitated to allow development of the site), a Tree Management Application would be required. The usual application fee will apply in this instance and the matter referred to the Council for final determination.
- There will also be a mandatory requirement for an Arborist's or Horticulturist's report to be provided in all situations where tree removal is requested.
- Prior to the commencement of any works on a tree listed in the Significant Tree Register, an owner would be required to nominate the person, listing their qualifications, who will be undertaking the work.

### **Council's Responsibilities**

- Re-assessment of the tree will automatically be undertaken every five (5) years through Council's internal Record's Management System. This assessment will take into consideration the condition of the tree and the continued appropriateness of the tree's listing.
- Should it be noted that works are required on a tree during the five (5) yearly re-assessment process, the owner of the tree will be notified of this, and the appropriate approval automatically processed.
- Should a site containing a tree/s listed on the Significant Tree Register have a Development Consent issued on the site, all inspections and certification relating to tree protection measures during construction works would be the responsibility of Council, regardless of the Principle Certifying Authority appointed.

## **EXPERT PANEL - EXPERIENCE AND PERSONNEL**

The expert panel required to assess information on trees nominated to be worthy of inclusion (ie; where an objection is listed) must have experience and qualifications to assess significant trees and should include a high knowledge of tree assessment and identification.

It should also include persons of other skills such as Town Planners, Heritage Officers, members of local conservation groups, or others shown to have the most relevant criteria for the group.

Nominations can be drawn through a wide range of interested persons and it is recommended that they have a defined period of occupancy so that their concepts and ideas remain fresh.

There will be four positions available on the expert panel. It will be a voluntary and unpaid position for a two year period.

This rotation will ensure a 'pool' of persons available with experience guarantee continuity and consistency of function.

Approval for the panel members will be through a Council resolution.

## **LIAISON AND MEETINGS**

The expert team will be required to have at least bi-annual meetings / discussions with the Council's tree management officers. The timing will be based on receipt of sufficient nominations and recommendations to warrant discussion. This should ensure that the matter can be managed in a timely, economical and efficient manner.

## **FEES**

There is no application fee for the nomination or registration process, although standard fees for maps and plans required will still be applied.

## **SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER LISTING**

Inclusion of a tree by Council resolution in the Significant Tree Register means that the tree will not be exempt from any prohibitions under Council's Tree Preservation Order and Tree Management Policy (ie. Council consent is required for any activity relating to any such tree/trees). The following trees are listed on this register;

<b>Date of Council Resolution</b>	<b>ID No.</b>	<b>Property Address</b>	<b>Lot &amp; DP/SP</b>	<b>Private Property or Public Land</b>	<b>Tree Species/s</b>
22 August 2000	5/2001	18 Hancott Street, Ryde	Lot 1-9 SP 71556	Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Sydney Blue Gums (<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>)</li> <li>· Rough Barked Apples (<i>Angophora floribunda</i>)</li> </ul>
28 November 2000	4/2001	135 Marsden Road, West Ryde	Lot 1 DP 218486	Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· 2x Port Jackson Fig Trees (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>)</li> </ul>
12 December 2000	2/2001	4 – 6 Watt Avenue Ryde	Lot 1-5 SP 68841	Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· 3 x Eucalyptus saligna (Sydney Blue Gums)</li> <li>· 1x Eucalyptus saligna x botryoides</li> </ul>
12 June 2001	8/2001	2 Crowley Crescent, Melrose Park	Lot 1-7 SP 70992	Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· West Australian Red Flowering Gum (<i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i>)</li> <li>· Jacaranda (<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>)</li> <li>· Turpentine (<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>)</li> </ul>
17 July 2001	10/2001	7 Emu Street, West Ryde	Lot 15 DP 27511	Private Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· White Mahogany (<i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i>)</li> </ul>

**SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER LISTING CONT...**

Date of Council Resolution	ID No.	Property Address	Lot & DP/SP	Private Property or Public Land	Tree Species/s
6 November 2001	13/2001	76A Wharf Road, Gladesville	Lot 761 DP 1036898	Private Property	· 2x Phoenix Palm ( <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> )
6 November 2001	14/2001	76B Wharf Road, Gladesville	Lot 762 DP 1036898	Private Property	· 1x Phoenix Palm ( <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> ) · 2x Coral Tree ( <i>Erythrina sykesii</i> {syn <i>E. indica</i> })
13 November 2001	12/2001	85 Champion Road, Tennyson	Lot 20 Sec 2 DP 2166	Private Property	· Illawarra Plum ( <i>Podocarpus elatus</i> )
13 November 2001	11/2001	87 Champion Road, Tennyson	Lot 21 Sec 2 DP 2166	Private Property	· Lilly Pilly ( <i>Acmena smithii</i> )
26 November 2002	13/2002	41 Belmore Street, Meadowbank Cnr Rothesay Ave	Lot 1 DP 1016850	Private Property	· 4x Port Jackson Figs ( <i>Ficus benjamina</i> )
25 February 2003	14/2003	102 North Road, Denistone East	Lot 4 DP 22451	Nature Strip	· Sydney Blue Gum ( <i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> )
5 August 2003	6/2005	32A Vimiera Road Eastwood	Lot 22 DP21902	Private Property	· 3 x <i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i> (Turpentine)
24 August 2004	3/2004	5 Bell Avenue, West Ryde	Lot 33 DP30394	Park	· <i>Ficus columnaris</i> (Fig)
24 August 2004	4/2004	79 Champion Road, Tennyson Point	Lot 2 DP962627	Private Property	· <i>Quercus robur</i> (English Oak)
24 August 2004	5/2004	27 Grove Street, Eastwood	Lot 0 SP67960	Nature Strip	· <i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i> (White Mahogany)
24 August 2004	6/2004	30 Grove Street, Eastwood	Lot 8 DP205593	Private Property	· <i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i> (Manchurian Pear)
24 August 2004	7/2004	3 Kings Road, Denistone East	Lot 31 DP 15589	Nature Strip	· <i>Syzygium leuhmannii</i> (Riberry Lilly Pilly)

Date of Council Resolution	ID No.	Property Address	Lot & DP/SP	Private Property or Public Land	Tree Species/s
24 August 2004	8/2004	202 Vimiera Road, Marsfield – Marsfield Park	Lot 659 DP752035	Park	· 3 x <i>Eucalyptus</i> spp.
24 August 2004	9/2004	166 Tennyson Road, Tennyson Point	Lot 3 DP2166	Private Property	· <i>Acmena smithii</i> (Lilly Pilly)
22 March 2005	2/2005	60 Pellisier Road, Putney	Lot 92 DP590979	Private Property	· Port Jackson Fig ( <i>Ficus rubigonsa</i> )
5 April 2005	1/2005	Mirool Street, West Ryde	-	Road Reserve	· 2 x Hills Weeping Figs ( <i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i> )
19 April 2005	3/2005	135 Marsden Road, West Ryde	Lot 1 DP218486	Nature Strip	· Jeffery Pine ( <i>Pinus jefferreyi</i> ) · Photinia ( <i>Photina glabra</i> ) · Funeral Pine ( <i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i> )
28 June 2005	4/2005	30 Clanwilliam Street, Eastwood	Lot 5 DP 6247	Private Property	· Moreton Bay Fig ( <i>Ficus microcarpa</i> )
28 June 2005	5/2005	120 Cox's Road & 25-37 Wicks Road, North Ryde Macquarie Hospital Grounds	Lot 5 DP 19997 Lot 11 DP 1000078	Private Property	· Blue Peppermint ( <i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i> ) · Red Ironbark ( <i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> ) · Cape Chestnut ( <i>Calodendrum capense</i> ) · Hills Weeping Fig ( <i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var <i>hillii</i> )

## **SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER NOMINATION FORM**

Nomination forms may be lodged with the City of Ryde;  
In person at: Civic Centre, 1 Devlin Street, Ryde  
By Mail to: Locked Bag 2069, North Ryde NSW 1670  
By fax on: 9952 8070  
By email on: cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au

### **INFORMATION ABOUT TREES**

**ADDRESS OF PROPERTY CONTAINING TREE/S:** .....

.....

**Lot**..... **DP / SP No.** .....

#### **CATEGORY UNDER WHICH YOU ARE NOMINATING THE TREE/S:**

- Horticultural/Botanical Significance
- Heritage Significance
- Other: (please specify).....

**SPECIES:** (please be as specific as possible) .....

.....

Please draw a sketch of the property indicating position of tree and north point.



**NOMINEE**

**NAME:** .....

**ADDRESS:** .....

..... **P/CODE:** .....

**PHONE** (during business hours): .....

**RELATION TO TREE/S:** (eg. Owner, neighbour etc) .....

Privacy Notification

In completing this form you will be prompted to supply information that is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Act 1998. The supply of this information is voluntary. If you cannot provide, or do not wish to provide the information sought, the Council may be unable to process your request.

Council is required under the Act to inform you about how your personal information is being collected and used. If you require further information please contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 9952-8222 and ask for an information sheet to be forwarded to you.