

What is the purpose of Tree Management?

Collectively and individually trees contribute to the appeal and quality of life in Ryde. Therefore the retention of trees is an important outcome. However, effective management of trees as a natural resource recognises that long-term retention of trees depends upon maintenance, appropriate location and species selection.

Tree Management seeks to protect those trees that make a contribution to the quality of life and the environment in Ryde while balancing the reasonable expectation of the landowner to protect and maintain their property.

Why are trees important?

- Trees contribute to the aesthetic quality of a location.
- Trees are part of the character of streetscapes.
- Trees make neighbourhoods more pleasant and give an area a distinctive local character that is valued by residents and visitors.
- Trees have intrinsic environmental significance and they also provide habitats for animals, prevent soil erosion, make air cleaner and provide microclimates and therefore can aid energy conservation. They are also important in achieving biodiversity.
- Just as buildings can have heritage value so can trees. This value may be because of the tree itself or because it is part of the curtilage of a heritage item. The heritage value of a tree may relate to it being part of the early streetscape works of a city. It may have value because it was planted as part of a memorial or simply because its age means that it has survived European settlement.
- Retention of trees can help a new development blend with the established environment.

Do I require Council consent to PRUNE or REMOVE trees?

Yes – If the trees are 5 metres or more in height.

Council Consent is not required for (Notice of Intent Form is required)

- Dead and dying tree/s – a written statement from a qualified Arborist MUST be supplied.
- Tree/s posing an immediate danger – a written statement from a qualified Arborist MUST be supplied.
- Tree/s within 3m of a building.
- Tree/s within 3m of any stormwater infrastructure owned by Council or Sydney Water.
- Pruning tree/s for Powerline clearances.
- Noxious Weeds.
- Exempt Species.

Exempt Species and Noxious Weeds:

COMMON NAME	Botanical Name
Liquidamber	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Silky Oak	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>
Evergreen Alder	<i>Alnus jorulensis</i>
Coral Tree	<i>Erythrina sp</i>
Lemon, Orange etc	<i>Citrus sp</i>
Rubber Tree	<i>Ficus elastica</i>
Oleander	<i>Nerium oleander</i>
Cocos Palm	<i>Syagrus romanzoffianum</i>
Umbrella Tree	<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>

Noxious Weeds:

Narrow Leafed Privet	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>
Broad Leafed Privet	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
Rhus	<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>
African Olive	<i>Olea europa sub sp cuspidata</i>
Camphor Laurel	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>

Consent may be granted for a tree to be removed when:

- There are significant defects within the tree's structure that warrant its removal.
- The tree is causing or likely to cause substantial damage to the property building.

Consent will NOT be given to remove a tree when:

- A tree is shedding leaves, bark or fruit.
- A tree is causing minor damage to a property – eg. driveways
- To improve the view.
- There is no other reason for removal other than it has become too tall.
- Tree/s is causing minor blockages to old clay pipes that should be replaced.

Don't leave it until it's too late:

- Trees should generally be maintained to lessen their potential of becoming a major hazard
- **PRUNING** trees will always be approved by Council (subject to certain conditions).
- Generally tree/s don't become a danger or dead overnight, so don't leave it till it's too late – consider having your tree **PRUNED** instead of removal being your first choice.

Consider consulting an Arborist prior to putting in your Tree Application:

- Trees are not cheap to remove, so have an Arborist inspect first.
- Find out what is affordable for your budget.
- Council advises that more than one quotation should be obtained.

How can you apply?

You can send a letter or complete City of Ryde's application form stating the reasons why you wish to prune or remove the tree(s) together with any information to support your application and the appropriate fee (as found on application form). Exemptions do apply. Phone the Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222 for details.

Storm damaged trees or other emergency

In the case of a severe weather event or storm affecting the Ryde local government area, special arrangements have been made to assist residents. In this situation contact the Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222 for information.

Problems with your neighbour's tree/s?

Tree disputes between neighbours are a civil matter and should no agreement between yourself and your neighbour be possible, the matter should be referred to the Land and Environment Court – "Trees (Disputes Between Neighbours) Act 2006". Please refer to the following website for further information.

http://www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/lawlink/lec/ll Lec.nsf/page/s/LEC_tree_disputes_information.htm

What can you do if you wish to have the determination of your application reviewed?

A written application should be lodged with Council. This application should include the appropriate fee, an ARBORIST REPORT on the tree and any NEW information that would assist with assessment. The review of determination fee is scheduled at a rate of \$47.00 or 50% of the original application fee, whichever is greater. Requests for a review of this determination must be received by the City **within three (3) months** of the date of the original determination.

Removal and/or pruning of tree/s without a Council permit is an offence and can incur penalties!!

It is the responsibility of the property owner to ensure that all work is carried out in accordance with the permit. Failure to observe or comply with any stated requirement, or work undertaken outside those authorised by the permit granted, is an offence and can incur penalties under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979.

Tree Management Application Fee Information

By Council resolution 27 March 2001, applications under the Tree Preservation Order incur an application fee for the pruning or removal of trees over five (5) metres in height. This fee does not apply for pensioners however pension details must be supplied within the application.

The fees are as follows:

Dwelling Type		
Single Dwellings	\$47.00 per tree	To a maximum of \$120.00
Commercial, strata and other properties	\$47.00 per tree for the first 10 trees	\$20.00 for all other trees to a maximum of \$600.00.
Pensioners	Free of charge	Pension details MUST be supplied

Fees must be forwarded with the application in order for the application to be processed.

For copy of full document visit:

cityofryde@ryde.nsw.gov.au
www.ryde.nsw.gov.au



How does the City of Ryde's Tree Preservation Order and Tree Management Policy apply to you?



City of Ryde
Civic Centre

1 Devlin Street RYDE
Locked Bag 2069
NORTH RYDE NSW 1670
Enquiries: 9952 8222
Facsimile: 9952 8070

PARKS – June 2009