

City of Ryde

Parks – Community Life Tree Selection Information Sheet

Trees are important to our environment as they contribute to the aesthetic quality of our suburbs, giving a distinctive character to our neighbourhoods and streetscapes. Our trees have an intrinsic environmental significance as they provide habitat for animals, prevent soil erosion and clean our air. Ryde local government area is home to some rare and threatened ecological communities. With the Tree Preservation Order and Tree Management Policy Council aims to maintain the environment in which residents have chosen to live whilst balancing this with the reasonable expectation of residents to a level of amenity from their property.

To assist you in selecting trees for your property, Council has compiled a list of trees that you may wish to consider. This list is a suggestion list only and professional advice should be sought relating to your individual lifestyle needs and property.

When selecting any tree for your property, here are some things to think about;

How do I use my property and what size tree can my property reasonably support given this use?

If you have a very large property with a lot of open space, a large tree may be an option. If however, you have a smaller property, a more compact tree may be more suitable. Ascertaining how much of a property that you want the canopy of a tree to affect will help in your selection.

Where on my property is the tree to be planted?

Things that you should consider here are overshadowing, privacy, potential effects on services such as electrical wires, underground pipes, driveways etc. Remember too that trees grow and they are not contained by your property boundaries. Keep in mind the potential mature size of the tree and the effect that this may have on your property and/or your neighbours. Take into consideration that a neighbour is within his rights to prune back overhanging branches to the common boundary. This may leave you with a less than pleasing shape to your tree if you plant it in an inappropriate position.

It is advisable to make a sketch plan of your property and take it with you when you go to look at trees. By showing the orientation (north, south, east and west) of your land, the location of buildings, driveways or paths and services, professionals are more able to advise on species that are suitable for your property.

What sort of environment is the tree to be planted in?

This can greatly expand or limit your selection of tree species. If you are planning to plant a tree on a property which has clay soil and in a damp area, the choice of species would be quite different to if it was along the waterfront with sandy soils. Similarly, properties that are regularly exposed to winds, such as those on the waterfront or on ridges, would require different species to those that are in protected areas, such as gullies. Write down these sorts of details on your plan to assist your adviser.

What do you want the tree to do?

Are you planting a tree to provide shade? If so, do you require shade all year round or only in summer? Are you trying to stabilise a sloping site or 'dry-up' a damp area in the yard? Perhaps you are seeking a centrepiece or focal point to your landscaping design. Some trees attract wildlife to your garden more than other trees. Is this a consideration for you? The answers to these questions can help an adviser suggest species that will help you achieve the effect you want in your garden.

All trees, regardless of species, require maintenance. Council strongly advises residents to have a maintenance program for all of their trees and to act upon it. This should involve regular inspections by a qualified Arborist or Horticulturist. Many problems need never arise if maintenance programs are instigated and actioned. Some companies may give a discount on work if you group together with your neighbours and it is a good way of protecting your property and reducing any potential risk of damage.

Please Turn Over

SUGGESTED SPECIES

The following is a list of species that may be suitable for your requirements. They are suggestions only and you are advised to seek the input of a professional who will be able to take into account your specific site and requirements.

Looking for a native?

Common Name	Botanical Name	Approximate Height	Feature / Use
Water Gum	<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i>	6-8 metres	Screening, flowers
Weeping Lilly Pilly	<i>Waterhousia floribunda</i>	10 metres	Screening
Scribbly Gum	<i>Eucalyptus haemastoma</i>	12 metres	Specimen, shade
Coachwood	<i>Ceratopetalum apetalum</i>	15 metres	Specimen, flowers
Pink Flowered Ironbark	<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> 'Rosea'	16 metres	Specimen, bird attracting
Yellow Bloodwood	<i>Corymbia eximia</i>	18 metres	Specimen
Blackbutt	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i>	20-30 metres	Specimen
Bangalay	<i>Ceratopetalum botryoides</i>	20 metres	Specimen
Grey Iron Bark	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i>	20-30 metres	Specimen
Sydney Blue Gum	<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>	25-35 metres	Specimen
Turpentine	<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Over 30 metres	Specimen
White Mahogany	<i>Eucalyptus acmenoides</i>	15-25 metres	Specimen
Grey Gum	<i>Eucalyptus punctata</i>	16 metres	Specimen
Red Spotted Gum	<i>Eucalyptus mannifera</i> subsp. <i>Maculosa</i>	10 metres	Specimen

For areas where residents are concerned about potential bush fire hazards, here are some native trees that are fire resistant.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Approximate Height	Features 1 Use
Lilly Pilly	<i>Acmena smithii</i>	20 metres	Shade, berries
Juniper Myrtle	<i>Agonis juniperina</i>	7 metres	Specimen
Smooth-Barked Apple / Sydney Red Gum	<i>Angophora costata</i>	15-25 metres	Specimen, shade
Spotted Gum	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i>	30-40 metres	Specimen
Brush Box	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	30-40 metres	Specimen, shade

Perhaps you are looking for a deciduous tree or one that will provide foliage colour in the garden? Here are some exotics that may suit your requirements.

Common Name	Botanical Name	Approximate Height	Features 1 Use
Ivory Curl Tree	<i>Buckinghamia celsissima</i>	6-10 metres	Shade, flowers
Butterfly Tree	<i>Bauhinia sp.</i>	8-10 metres	Shade, flowers
Chinese Tallow Tree	<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	12 metres	Autumn colour, shade, specimen
Japanese Elm	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	15 metres	Autumn colour
Fiddlewood	<i>Citharexylum spinosum</i>	15 metres	Screening (fast growing)
Honey Locust	<i>Gleditsia tricanthos</i> 'Shademaster'	15-20 metres	Shade
Manchurian Pear (other Pyrus sp. available)	<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	7 metres	Autumn colour, blossoms, shade
Magnolia	<i>Magnolia x soulangiana</i>	6-8 metres	Specimen, flowers
Chinese Elm	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	15 metres	Shade
Chinese Pistachio	<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	7-10 metres	Autumn colour, shade
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>	20 metres	Autumn colour
Claret Ash	<i>Fraxinus raywoodii</i>	15 metres	Autumn colour, shade
Golden Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 'Aurea'	15-20 metres	Autumn colour, shade

If you require any further information with regard to the City of Ryde's Tree Preservation Order and Tree Management Policy or for assistance with the lodgement of a Tree Management Application or Notice of Intent, please contact Council's Customer Service Centre on 9952 8222.