

City of Ryde

Media Release

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TREE MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY

Trees are an asset to your property no different to structures such as pools. They provide aesthetic value, shade in summer and reports have shown they increase property values.

A recent fallen tree incident has prompted City of Ryde Council to remind property owners that, as assets on their land, large trees should be inspected every 12-18 months to determine their level of health and safety.

Council records show that the tree in question had last been inspected in 2002 when the owner of the property requested inspection. A pruning permit was issued.

A preliminary inspection of the fallen tree by Council staff yesterday shows that the tree had an active termite nest and suspected fungal pathogens in it and this was the probable cause of the weakening of the tree.

Property owners can apply to Council for preliminary tree assessment at any time. The cost is \$47 per tree.

If a tree is proven to have significant structural defects Council can approve removal and replacement with an appropriate species. Owners must employ a certified tree surgeon/arborist to carry out the work. Council does not perform works on trees on private property. It is the owner's responsibility.

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