



Moyne Shire Council
**Tree Management Procedure
2023**



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Contents

Introduction	6
Scope	6
1 Tree pruning.....	7
1.1 Methodology	7
1.2 Natural target pruning	7
1.3 Canopy reduction	7
1.4 Lopping	7
1.5 Property lines	8
1.6 Scenic views	8
1.7 Root pruning	8
1.8 Roadside pruning	9
1.9 Unauthorised actions	9
1.10 Considerations before pruning	10
1.11 Pruning procedures	10
1.12 Foliage distribution	12
1.14 Unacceptable practices	20
2 Tree planting.....	21
2.1 Customer planting requests	22
2.2 Consultation	22
2.3 VicRoads	22
2.4 Unauthorised planting	22
2.5 Unsuitable street trees and shrubs	22
2.6 Tree planting detail	23
3 Tree removal.....	24
3.1 Assessment	24
3.2 Approved removal	24
3.3 Unauthorised street tree removal	25
3.4 Tree valuation	25
4 Electric line clearance	26
5 Excavations and installation near trees	26
5.1 Protection of trunk and canopy	27
5.2 Excavation	28
5.3 Boring	28

5.4 Trenching	28
5.5 Prevention of soil compaction	28
5.6 Use and storage of materials	29
5.7 Activities restricted within the tree protection zone (TPZ)	29
6 Management of Trees Near Existing Structures / Infrastructure.....	30
6.1 Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel	30
6.2 Electric powerlines	30
6.3 Fences, driveways and other private property	30
6.4 Termites	31
6.5 Pipes	31
6.6 Other authorities	31
6.7 Private drains and sewers	31
7 Inspections and monitoring	32
7.1 Programmed condition audits	32
7.2 Ad Hoc reactive / safety inspections	32
7.3 Incident inspections	32
7.4 Works Identified from a Road Management Plan	32
Appendix 1 Definitions	33
Appendix 2 Recommended Tree Species List.....	37
Appendix 3.....	44

Introduction

These procedures provide the supporting framework and detailed information for the management of Council owned or managed trees. The procedures are to be used in conjunction with Council's Tree Management Policy and relevant Australian Standards.

Scope

The procedures encompass a broad range of matters including tree species selection, planting, pruning, maintenance, removal, and the legislative requirements in relation to street trees and trees on roadsides, parklands, reserves, and open space trees. These guidelines should be used by Council Officers, developers, property owners, consultants, and the broader community to provide information and direction in relation to Council owned trees.

1 Tree pruning

Trees are living structures that have evolved to cope with the conditions under which they grow. The most common intervention is pruning. Pruning is undertaken to assist trees to conform to available spaces around other structures and infrastructure. Ideally these structures should be located so that minimal pruning is required. The extent of any pruning undertaken must consider the condition and significance of the tree and the effect of the pruning on the tree. Pruning should also be specific to the location of the tree and its potential impact on traffic other infrastructure and pedestrians.

1.1 Methodology

All pruning work conducted for Moyne Shire Council must comply with Australian Standard 4373 - 2007 "*Pruning of Amenity Trees*" as a minimum.

Pruning cuts made to trees owned or managed by Council must;

- Not remove major or scaffold limbs over 150mm in diameter unless necessary to provide essential clearance or safety to the public
- Not cause bark tearing or other bark damage
- Not leave stubs or flush cuts
- Not damage branch collars or branch bark ridges
- Not be treated with wound sealants
- Be made with sharp, properly maintained tools appropriate to the task
- Undertaken by appropriately qualified personnel.

1.2 Natural target pruning

Natural target pruning is the preferred pruning method and uses indications in the structure of the tree to locate the appropriate place to make pruning cuts. This minimises wounding and the possibility of infection and decay caused by pruning. Poor pruning cuts compromise the trees' defence mechanisms against pathogens.

1.3 Canopy reduction

Wherever possible, canopy reduction pruning will only be used on trees under electric lines.

1.4 Lopping

Lopping is indiscriminate tree cutting, ignoring understanding of tree structure. This can lead to tree death or rapid growth that is poorly attached to the tree. This growth can weaken the structure of the tree and lead to a significant hazard to people and property near the tree. Lopping is totally discredited and will not be used at any time by the Council or its contractors.

1.5 Property lines

Where a branch from a street tree is growing over private property and causing concern to the owner of the property, Council shall seek to alleviate the problem through judicious pruning and negotiation with the property owner. Pruning back to the property boundary in a manner that will adversely affect the form of the tree is strongly discouraged.

1.6 Scenic views

The pruning of Council owned or managed trees to provide or maintain scenic views from private property shall not be undertaken.

1.7 Root pruning

Root pruning is generally discouraged as the long-term results cannot be fully known.

Tree roots do not “seek” or “search” for water. They cannot sense water across dry or impermeable material. Tree roots grow by permeating small pores or “gaps” in the soil. The more aerated (loose) the soil, the more readily the roots will grow. Where roots encounter moist soil, they will exploit it; however, they generally cannot grow in waterlogged conditions because they need oxygen to survive.

Council will take all reasonable action which resources will permit, to prevent roots from street trees causing damage to Council assets and private property. Council will ensure that it is kept up to date with current trends including the use of root barriers and their installation.

Pipes that are in good condition will not be entered by tree roots. It is up to the asset owner to make sure their pipes are maintained and operational so that tree roots cannot enter.

In the event of tree roots entering a sewer service line or storm water drain, claims for compensation or removal of a tree due to roots in the sewer drain will be assessed on an individual basis by Council’s risk officer.

Where root pruning is permitted the following general guidelines will apply:

- Roots with a diameter less than 60 mm shall be cleanly cut with a sharp saw
- Roots of a diameter greater than 60 mm shall not be cut unless authorised by a Council representative.

Under no circumstances shall roots be ripped or pulled by machines. Where roots have been inadvertently damaged during excavation works, the damaged roots must be cut clean and must be inspected by a Council representative before work continues.

1.8 Roadside pruning

All native vegetation, including grasses, shrubs and trees are High Conservation Value and are generally protected by law. Council will only prune trees that are situated within a designated road reserve on Council managed road reserves in accordance with Council's Road Management Plan. VicRoads are responsible for trees on designated VicRoads roads.

Landowners are responsible for trees that are on their property that overhang or encroach into the road reserve.

Construction zones should be pre planned and once determined be clearly pegged out on-site prior to works, including turn-around points, equipment, and materials storage sites (dumps, lay-down areas) etc. and temporarily fenced out with bunting to prevent unauthorised access. All works activities must stay within the designated construction zone.

Council will not unnecessarily prune, lop or 'clean up' trees unless works are part of an approved maintenance program, planning permit or Roadside Conservation Plan.

If unsure, contact Council's Works Supervisor Open Spaces in the first instance or the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (DEECA).

1.9 Unauthorised actions

Pruning or removal of Council owned or managed trees by anyone other than Council staff or contractors engaged by Council is not permitted.

Affixing of signage or other infrastructure on Council owned or managed trees shall not be permitted. Council may prosecute or charge reparation costs to persons who prune, disfigure, damage, kill or remove Council trees without explicit written authorisation from the Council's relevant manager or delegated officer, under appropriate Local Laws.

Council will undertake the pruning of street trees to:

- A high standard of arboriculture practice in accordance with Australian Standard AS 4373/200
- Provide safe access to both pedestrians and vehicles
- Ensure safe visibility to both pedestrians and vehicles
- Ensure that suitable clearances are maintained under Powercor services and aesthetics of the tree, street, and surrounding area
- Ensure healthy tree growth using skilled arboricultural methods and formative pruning to repair physical damage and maintain shape
- Avoid pollarding trees in streets
- Avoid intrusion of roots and branches onto public and private property.

1.10 Considerations before pruning

Prior to pruning being prescribed or undertaken, a thorough inspection of the tree should be carried out by a person competent in arboriculture assessment (minimum AQF Level 3 in arboriculture Plus Level 5 Assess Trees module). This should include an assessment of the tree's health, growth habit, structure, stability, and growing environment. The need for pruning should be determined. If pruning is required, then the current and subsequent pruning requirements should be specified. The tree should not be adversely affected by pruning.

The inspection should consider hazards, habitats, species, age, condition, wind loading, location, and the timing of the tree's biological processes. The distribution of the foliage and wound size should be considered. The potential impacts of the proposed pruning on the health, structure and amenity of the tree should also be considered.

NOTES:

1. *Reference should be made to any relevant legislation including planning, heritage, protected species and significant trees.*
2. *Tree work is inherently hazardous and should be carried out by a person suitably qualified and experienced in arboriculture (minimum of AQF Level 2 in arboriculture). Work should be performed in accordance with relevant OHS guidelines.*
3. *The person carrying out the assessment should have a minimum qualification of AQF Level 3 in arboriculture Plus Level 5 Assess Trees module.*
4. *Trees with hollows or other likely habitat may need further assessment by an ecologist or wildlife specialist.*

1.11 Pruning procedures

1.11.1 Equipment

The following shall apply:

- (a) Equipment that will wound the bark and conductive tissues shall not be used on, or in sections of a tree to be retained, (e.g. spurs, spikes, hooks, chained platforms, lowering systems or other tools that will penetrate or severely bruise bark and conductive tissue).
- (b) Sharp tools shall be used at all times so that clean cuts will be made.

1.11.2 Disinfection

Where there is a risk of the spread of disease from one tree to another, pruning tools shall be disinfected between trees. The need to do this shall be specified as part of the assessment process.

1.11.3 Pre-cutting

To avoid splitting or tearing of the branch collar or trunk, branches should be pre-cut or undercut. The remaining stub is then removed with a final cut.

1.11.4 Final cut

The following shall be observed:

(a) For branch removal, a final cut shall be made as close as possible to the branch collar without cutting into the branch collar or leaving a protruding stub. (See Figure 1(a)).

(b) In the absence of a visible collar, the branch bark ridge shall be used to determine the angle of the cut when removing a branch.

NOTE: Figure 1(b) provides a guide for positioning the final cut when removing living branches and when the collar cannot be defined. The aim of the cut is to prevent damage to trunk tissue and the branch bark ridge.

(c) When removing a codominant stem, the stem bark ridge shall be used to determine the angle of the cut (See Figure 2).

NOTE: Co-dominant stems may have stem bark ridges which are very long or may be difficult to discern. In such cases, the positions, and angles of the joins between the tissue of declining or dead stems and those of healthy stems elsewhere in the tree, may provide a guide to the position and angle of the final cut. In removing one stem, the adjacent stem/stems should not be damaged.

(d) When making reduction cuts, the branch bark ridge shall be used as a guide to the angle and position of the final cut. (See Figure 5). The lateral branch to which the final cut is made shall be at least one third of the diameter of the branch being reduced at the point of the final cut.

(e) Bark at the edge of all final cuts shall remain firmly attached.

1.11.5 Branch lowering or dropping

When lowering or dropping branches, no other part of the tree being pruned, or adjacent trees, shall be damaged.

1.11.6 Hanging branches

When lowering or dropping branches, no other part of the tree being pruned, or adjacent trees, shall be damaged.

1.12 Foliage distribution

1.12.1 Growth Habit

Trees should be pruned to maintain their natural habit with the exception of specific types of pruning.

1.12.2 Amount removed

When pruning a tree, the minimum necessary to achieve the aim of the pruning should be removed. For each tree or group of similar trees, the amount to be removed shall be specified by the pruning class (refer Table 1 AS 4373-2007) prior to commencement of work.

Consideration should be given to the species, health, age, condition, and location of the tree as well as reason for pruning, location of foliage to be removed and size of cuts. Care should be taken to avoid excessive pruning.

1.12.3 Weight Distribution

All pruning should allow for natural distribution of foliage and weight along the branches and branch ends according to species and their stages of maturity.

1.12.4 Crown distribution

To minimize stress on the trunk and to develop or maintain good trunk taper, at least one half of the foliage distribution in young trees should be on branches that arise in the lower two-thirds of the trunk.

NOTE: When removing dead wood from a tree, make the final cut as close to the branch collar as possible. Do not damage living tissue. The branch collar is the best guide for the final cut when removing a living branch. However, if there is no branch collar use the branch bark ridge as depicted in Figure 1.

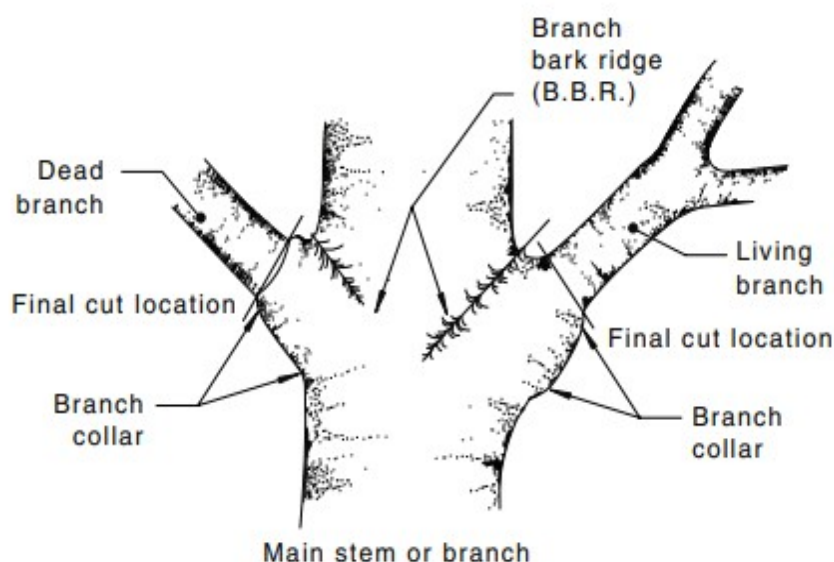


Figure 1 - Crown distribution

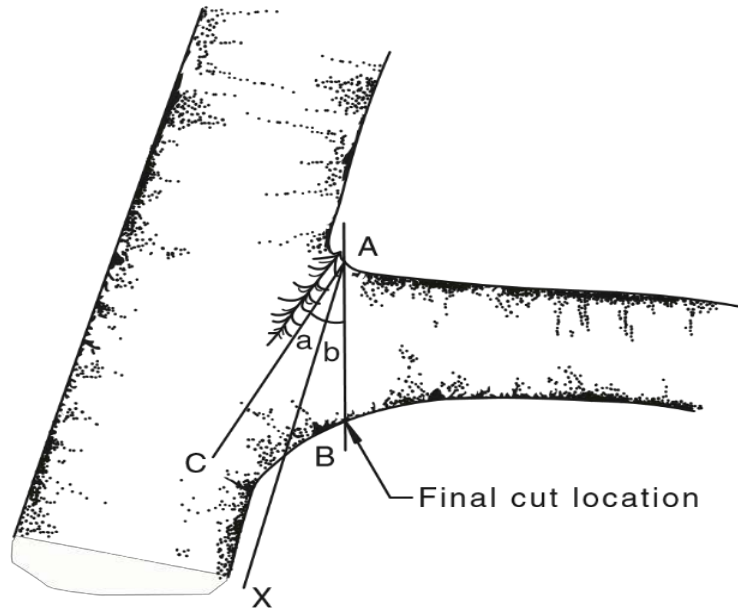
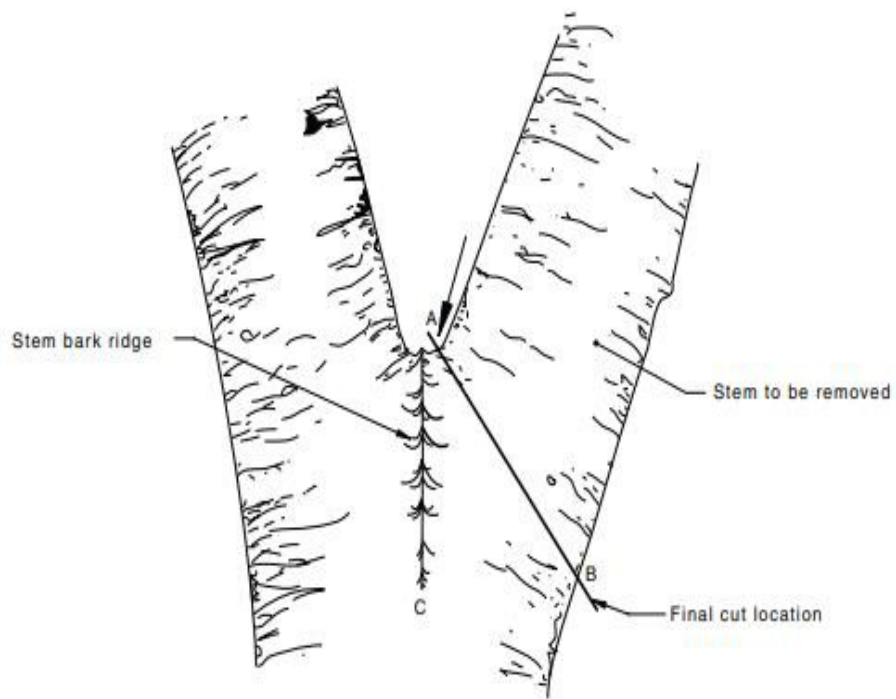


Figure 2 – Final cut location

NOTE: On living branches where the branch collar cannot be located, the branch bark ridge can be used as a guide. Line A-X is a line parallel to the stem or trunk occurring just outside the branch bark ridge. Line A-C indicates the angle of the branch bark ridge and Line A-B represents the angle and location of the final cut. Angle 'a' should equal angle 'b'.



(a) With extruded bark

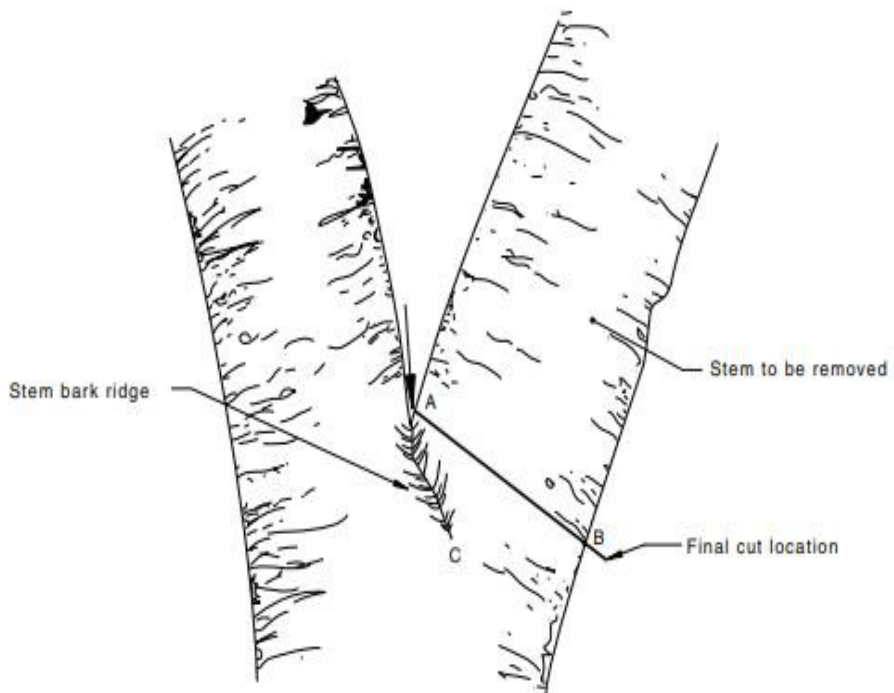


Figure 3 – Cut location with extruded and included bark

1.13 Pruning classes

1.13.1 General

Before the selection of a pruning class, the reason for pruning should be carefully considered. With the exception of pollarding and remedial pruning, all classes are based on the principles of natural target pruning.

1.13.2 Crown maintenance

Crown maintenance is pruning according to the growth habit of the tree. It includes dead wooding, crown thinning, selective pruning and formative pruning as discussed below. It does not reduce the volume of the crown and retains the structure and size of the tree.

1.13.3 Deadwooding

Deadwooding is the removal of dead branches. The minimum diameter and location of branches to be removed shall be specified.

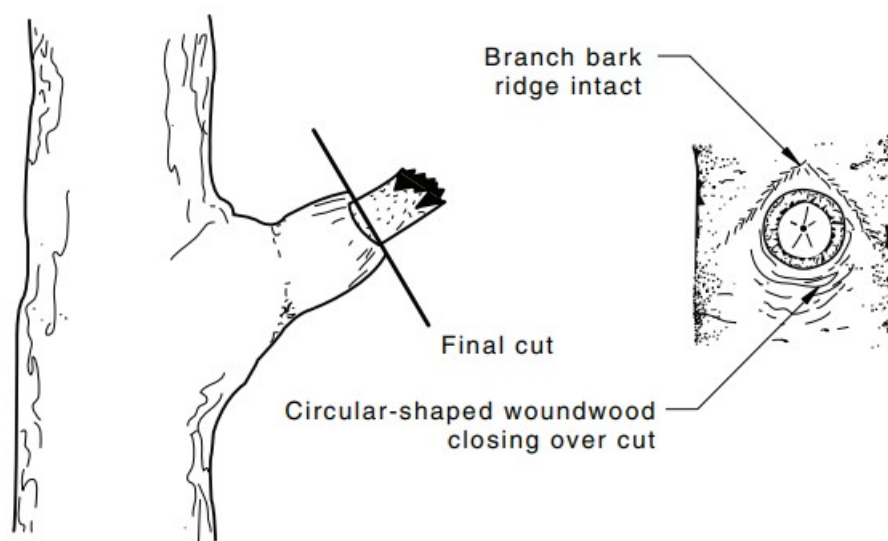


Figure 4 - Deadwooding

NOTE: In cases where the deadwood has remained in the tree for a long period the collar may extend itself along the dead branch. This collar should be left intact.

1.13.4 Crown thinning

Crown thinning reduces canopy density through the removal of lower order branches whilst retaining the main structural branches of the tree. The percentage of the crown to be removed shall be specified. The maximum diameter and location of any branches to be removed should be specified.

NOTES:

1. *Selective thinning may be carried out to increase light penetration and air movement through the crown, for formative pruning or to restore views. Deadwooding normally forms part of this class of pruning.*
2. *The percentage of a canopy that can be removed without having a detrimental effect on tree health and vigour is species and age specific.*
3. *Thinning should not produce the effect of 'lion's tailing' or 'feathering'.*

1.13.5 Selective pruning

Selective pruning may be used to remove identified branches that are causing a specific problem. These branches shall be specified at the time of assessment.

1.13.6 Formative pruning of young trees

Figure 5 shows a diagrammatical representation of formative pruning of young and developing trees.

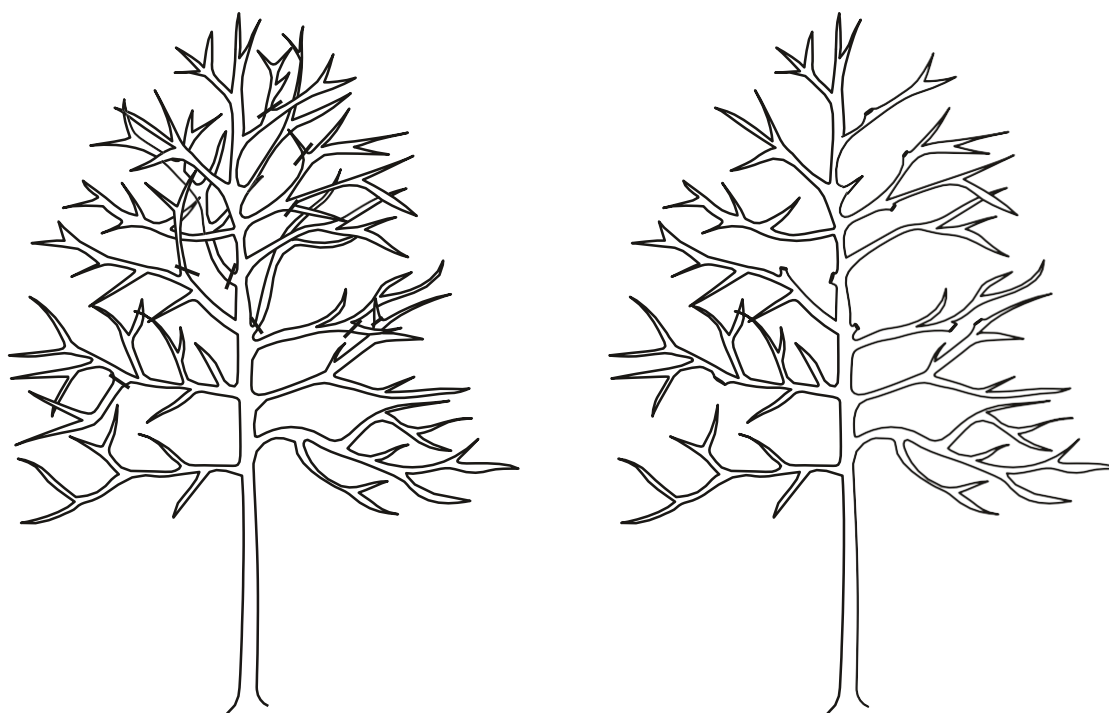


Figure 5 - Formative pruning of young and developing trees – Before and After

The aims of formative pruning are;

- (a) to enhance form and improve structure, or to directionally shape the young tree
- (b) to reduce the development of structural weaknesses
- (c) as a precursor to more specialized pruning; and
- (d) to accommodate site constraints and reduce encroachment on utilities or buildings as the tree grows.

NOTE: With small diameter branches it may be necessary to reduce a branch to a dormant bud.

1.13.7 Crown modification

Crown modification is the pruning that changes the form and habit of the tree. It includes reduction pruning, crown lifting, pollarding and remedial (restorative) pruning.

1.13.8 Reduction pruning

For reduction pruning, the ends of branches are removed to internal lateral branches or stems (see Figure 6). The extent of crown or limb reduction shall be specified at the time of assessment.

NOTES:

- 1 The lateral branch to which the final cut is made should be at least one third of the diameter of the branch being reduced at the point of the final cut. This may be difficult to achieve in remedial pruning and line clearance work.
- 2 Reduction pruning is not lopping or topping.

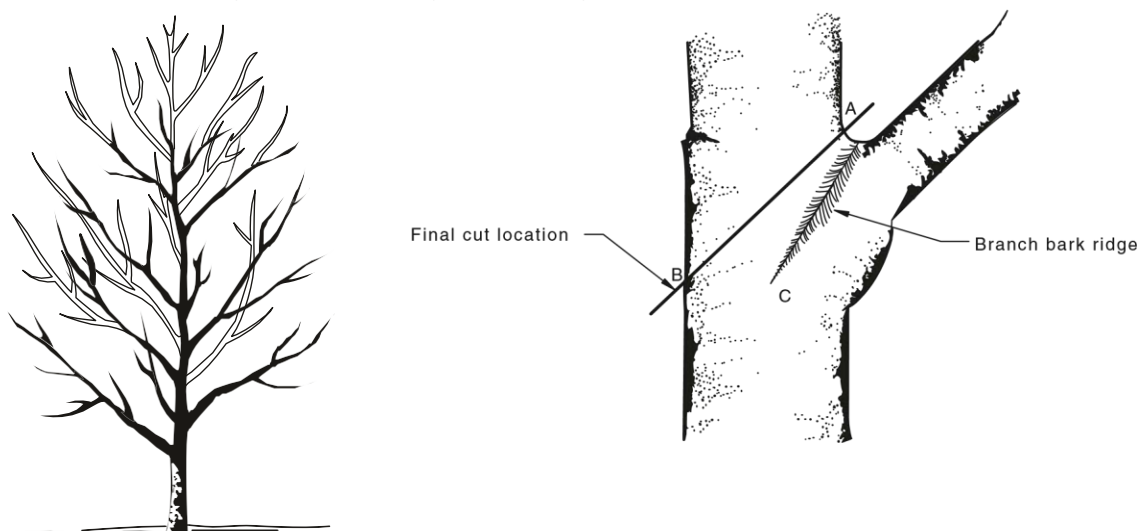


Figure 6 - Reduction pruning

NOTE: Line A- B represents the angle and location of the final cut, point C is the bottom of the branch bark ridge. The point B is opposite point C and represents the bottom of the final cut. These figures are for guidance only.

1.13.9 Crown lifting

Crown lifting is the removal of the lower branches. Clearances shall be specified. The maximum diameter and location of the branches to be removed should be specified.

1.13.10 Pollarding

Pollarding is only considered by Council under special circumstances. Taking into consideration of previous pruning practices. Pollarding is a specialized pruning technique that establishes branches ending in a pollard head of buds and vigorous shoots. Trees are cut back to just above the same point every 1 to 3 years resulting in the production of multiple shoots. When removing shoots, pollard heads should not be injured. Cuts should be made as close as possible to the swollen collars that surround each shoot (see Figure 7).

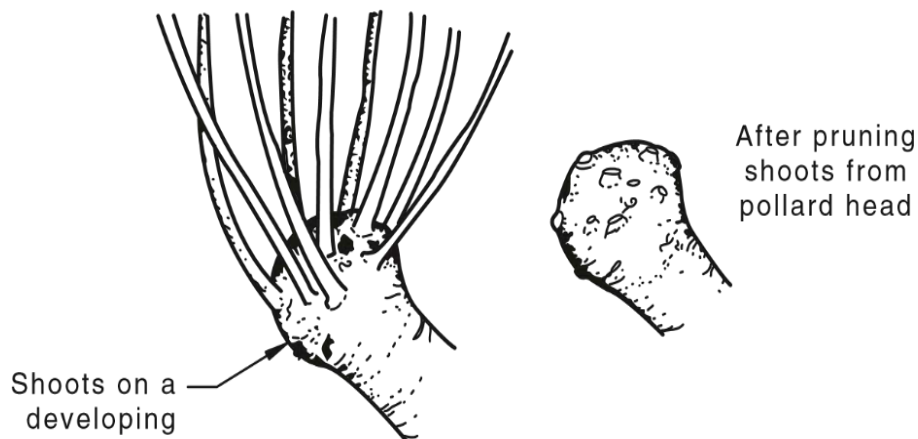


Figure 7 - Pollarded head

NOTES:

1. *This pruning process is suited mostly to deciduous trees that have been formatively pruned at an early age and should not be carried out on mature trees that have not been previously pollarded.*
2. *Pollarding is not lopping, topping, or coppicing.*
3. *Trees pollarded initially and not regularly maintained can become hazardous.*

1.13.11 Remedial (restorative) pruning

This type of pruning shall only be carried out on trees which have lost their natural form and structure through storm damage, mechanical damage, vandalism, lopping, dieback, or disease. This method is usually only used when all other approaches have failed and replacing the tree is difficult. The purpose of this pruning is to prolong the useful life expectancy of such trees and to reduce their hazard potential.

This type of pruning removes damaged, diseased, or lopped branches back to undamaged or healthy tissue. The final cut may not necessarily be at the branch collar. The aim is to induce the production of epicormic shoots from which a new crown is intended to be established. To achieve this, regrowth should be managed by reduction pruning or crown thinning.

NOTES:

1. *This type of pruning should be done in several stages in an attempt to induce stable and successful regrowth.*
2. *Consideration should be given to removing dangerous trees.*
3. *Remedial pruning may create hazards from weak branch attachment. Trees should be carefully monitored.*

1.13.12 Line clearance

Line clearance is pruning to maintain clearances around overhead services and is an application of reduction pruning.

NOTES:

1. *Reference should be made to relevant state legislation for line clearance*
2. *Formative pruning should be used to establish a suitable framework*
3. *The amount to be removed should consider the characteristics of the species, growth rate and response to pruning. The potential impact of the pruning on the health, structure and amenity of the tree should be considered.*

1.13.13 Norfolk Island Pines, Araucaria heterophylla

Moyne Shire has a significant number of Norfolk Island Pines (NIP) located at various sites around the Shire. A large number of these NIP trees are protected within the Victorian Heritage Register (H2239) and the Moyne Planning Scheme Heritage Overlay HO48) No works is to be undertaken on the NIPs without permission of the relevant Council Officer.

1.13.14 Pruning of Palms

Palms are pruned primarily to remove old and potentially hazardous fronds and fruit. The terminal shoots should never be removed as this will kill the palm. In multi-stemmed or clumping species of palms, entire stems are sometimes removed.

The removal of healthy fronds should be avoided as it is generally unnecessary and may place the palm under stress. Climbing devices that wound the stem, such as spikes, should not be used as they may allow entry of decay causing organisms and other pathogens. Care should be taken not to damage the trunk of the palm during the pruning process.

NOTE: The genus Phoenix and other members of Arecaceae are very susceptible to the fatal fungal disease caused by Fusarium oxysporum. To avoid transmission of this disease from palm to palm, tools must be disinfected between trees.

1.14 Unacceptable practices

1.14.1 Lopping and topping

Lopping and topping are unacceptable practices for the following reasons:

- (a) They increase the rate of shoot production and elongation
- (b) The resulting regrowth is weakly attached and becomes prone to failure or collapse
- (c) The stubs may decay
- (d) The natural habit of the tree is destroyed
- (e) They may reduce the lifespan of the tree
- (f) They predispose trees to fungal infections and insect attack.

1.14.2 Wound painting

In theory, wound dressings or paints are intended to prevent decay, stimulate wound closure, and improve the appearance of a wound. Extensive research has shown that there are no wound dressings that prevent decay. Most dressings have no effect on wound closure and some damage tree tissues and may improve conditions for wood decay fungi. The colour and texture of most paints is far from natural.

The best practice is to prune to the appropriate positions outlined in this Standard and must not use wound paints. If natural target pruning is followed, the tree's own protective mechanisms will normally provide adequate defence.

1.14.3 Flush cutting

This is a method of pruning that was quite common for many years, however it is now considered to be unacceptable and detrimental to tree health and structure. This practice that damages or removes the branch collar is unacceptable for the following reasons:

- (a) It removes or damages the branch collar and stem tissue. These features define and enclose a range of chemical defences that the tree has in place for the eventual and natural decline of the branch
- (b) A larger wound is created
- (c) The tree uses more energy and relies on stored starch reserves to deal with the wound; this energy is then unavailable for other essential processes
- (d) The exposed wood is prone to decay
- (e) Long term defects such as cavities may eventuate.

2 Tree planting

Tree plantings will be undertaken in a programmed and sustainable manner.

It is essential to plan what tree stock will be needed to be assured of selecting the right species and quality at the right time of year. Species will be selected from Council's approved species list attached to these procedures (APPENDIX 2).

When selecting species, tree planting the following factors apply:

- Adopted master plans, strategies, and development plans
- Preferred landscape character
- Nature strip width and road reserve requirements
- Avoiding powerlines and the need for powerline clearance pruning
- Existing services and surrounding infrastructure
- The significance of previous history of tree planting
- Drought tolerance/low water usage and fire resistant
- Climate adaptation
- Longevity
- Growth habit, size, and structural integrity
- Tolerance to harsh urban environments
- Soil type and structure
- Pruning requirements
- Amount and type of debris shed
- Pest and disease susceptibility
- Habitat value
- Cooling or shading attributes (heat island effect) Consideration of trees that may provide tree canopy cover to achieve shading of hard civil surfaces
- Health effects to public
- Optimum time of year for planting specified species.

New tree planting should reinforce the existing character of areas or create a preferred character. Through the land development process, Council must be consulted and give approval for any tree planting within the new streets and open space as Council will ultimately become responsible for the management and maintenance of the planting.

Only high-quality tree stock will be used and planted correctly (Figure 7) as substandard trees or planting can increase maintenance costs significantly and conversely quality stock and planting technique dramatically increases establishment rates and increases the community's appreciation of trees.

Prior to the commencement of planting, the stock must be inspected and approved by a Council representative. Large growing trees provide the maximum environmental benefits and create the greatest visual impact. The ability to maintain or establish large growing species is, however, limited on public land. The protection of existing large trees and utilising or creating appropriate spaces to plant new large growing trees will be a priority.

2.1 Customer planting requests

Individual trees requested by customers shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis and usually planted during autumn and winter to reduce watering requirements until established. Requests for block or entire street plantings shall be considered as part of the overall street tree-planting program dependent on allocation of funding.

If a member of the community wishes to plant Trees on a nature strip they are required to fill out and submit to Council the Nature Strip Tree Planting Permit Application form. (Appendix 3).

2.2 Consultation

The establishment of an avenue of trees or a consistent planting theme can sometimes require Council to plant a tree in a nature strip against the wishes of the resident immediately adjacent. This is a difficult situation that calls for Council staff to make a judgment regarding the wishes of the wider community over the individual resident.

When making such a decision, it should be borne in mind that a major factor in the survival of a newly planted street tree is the cooperation of the nearest resident. Trees may be planted to fill gaps in already established areas, despite opposition from adjacent residents. Prior to significant tree planting taking place (or removal), consultation shall take place with residents and affected landowners, in accordance with Council's Community consultation protocols.

2.3 VicRoads

All tree plantings within a VicRoads' controlled road corridor are to be undertaken after consultation with VicRoads and comply with their planting procedure and the Road Management Act 2004 to their satisfaction.

2.4 Unauthorised planting

All plantings should abide by Council's Tree Management Policy and Procedures. Unauthorised planting of trees by residents shall be discouraged and potentially removed and costs associated may be charged to the persons responsible.

Recently planted trees may be allowed to remain provided they are of a suitable species which is compatible with the surrounding streetscape, good quality specimens, in a suitable location, and planted to Council standards.

2.5 Unsuitable street trees and shrubs

Not every species can be planted everywhere. Depending on growth habits, if planted in an inappropriate location such as narrow nature strip or under power lines, they can cause an increase to maintenance costs and liabilities. Too many mixed species, ages and shapes tend to detract from the amenity of the streetscape. There should be no more than two (2) different species per street.

A 10-year street tree removal program should be in place to gradually remove unsuitable species from these situations, replacing them with more appropriate plantings that tend to be in character of the existing streetscape and to reduce long term maintenance costs.

Noxious weeds are not appropriate for planting and removal of such would be supported.

2.6 Tree planting detail

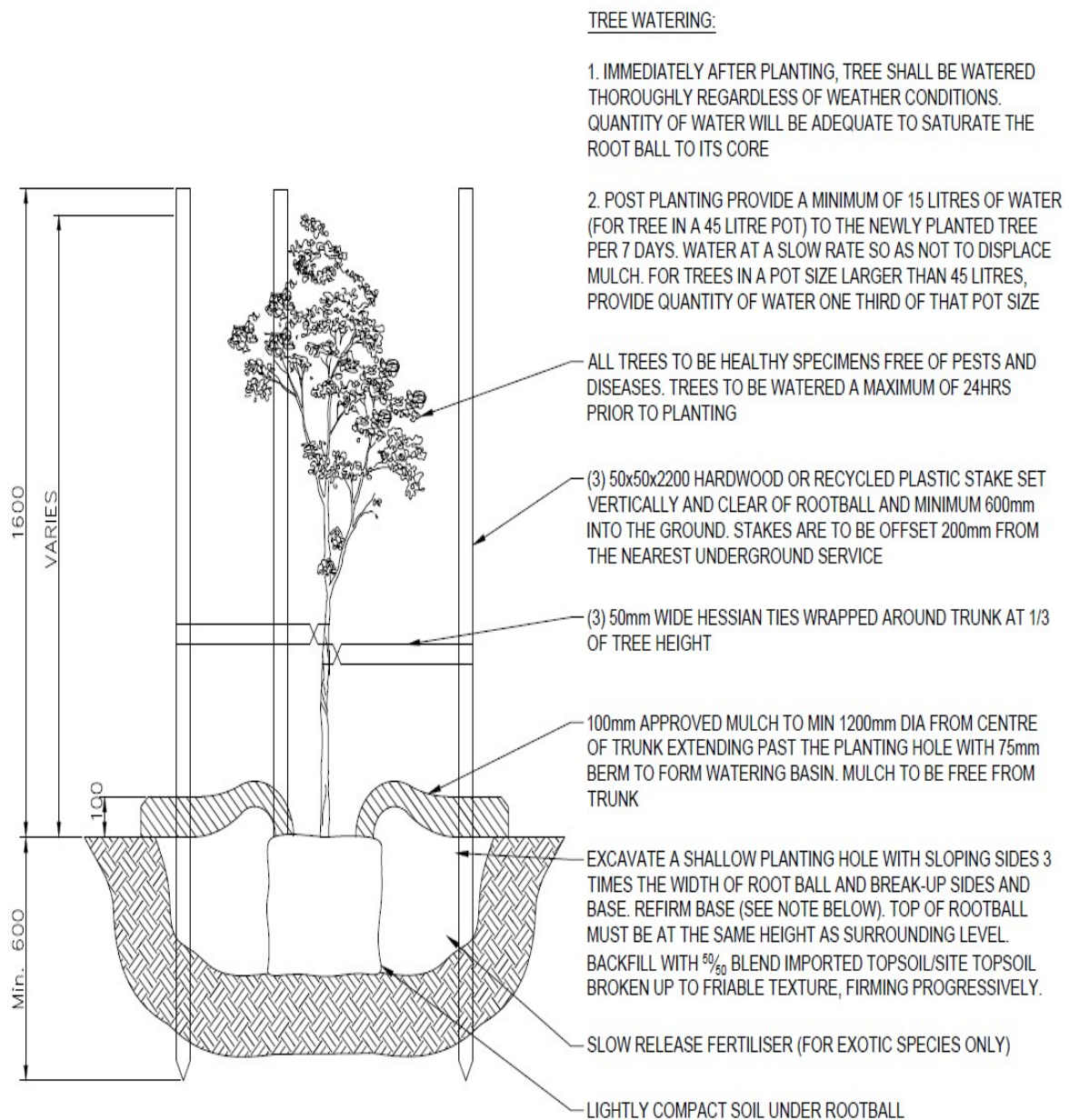


Figure 8 - Tree planting detail

3 Tree removal

3.1 Assessment

Trees or groups of trees for removal will be assessed on a case-by-case basis based upon the condition, suitability, risk, and compliance with legislation based on:

- health
- structure
- form
- useful life expectancy
- safety
- damage caused
- compatibility with the surrounding streetscape or landscape
- compliance with any existing streetscape policy or management plan
- potential to cause damage or injury to people or structures
- potential to cause nuisance
- suitability of species to growing space and conditions
- Habitat potential.

3.2 Approved removal

Trees or groups of trees shall only be removed if:

- They pose a hazard to persons or property and the hazard cannot be removed by other means
- They are dead or irretrievably dying and not a significant habitat tree
- It is not possible to prune to the Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance
- Causing damage to structures/infrastructure, and the structure cannot be relocated or redesigned to enable retention of the tree, or the structures cannot be reasonably repaired if the tree is retained
- Inappropriate for its site and a more appropriate tree(s) are planned to be planted in that site
- To be removed as part of a Council tree replacement program, woody weed removal or fire prevention program
- A planning permit or permission to conduct works has been granted and no alternative exists to removing the tree(s) to allow those works
- The tree(s) pose a public nuisance because of its species, size, location or condition. The nuisance could be allergic reaction, excessive fruit or seed drop, harbouring of insects or excessive limb breakage.
- In cases of emergency.

Council will not remove a tree or undertake any formal removal consideration process based on the following reasons:

- Falling leaves, bark, twigs, fruit, or flowers
- Failure to establish grass under the tree
- Obscuring vistas or views
- Perceived aesthetic concerns
- Perceived allergies or
- To facilitate nature strip parking.

Where a resident requests a specific tree to be removed due to a severe allergic reaction, the resident will be required to submit an application for Tree Removal to the Moyne Shire Council, along with attached expert opinion in regard to the allergy and its cause. The Moyne Shire Council will consider the matter and may refer the application to Council for decision.

3.3 Unauthorised street tree removal

Unauthorised removal of trees from nature strips and parks is not permitted and is a breach of Council's Local Laws with offenders risking fines and or prosecution. Prudent tree management requires Council to assume that every tree, no matter how insignificant it may appear, has some value to someone. Decisions regarding tree removal become necessary in response to applications by customers, developers and external authorities and are carefully assessed on a case-by-case basis.

3.4 Tree valuation

Council adopts the Revised Burnley Method (Moore) as a basis for determining economic values for Council's tree assets. Council will use this method for accurate tree evaluation assessment to achieve an average figure. Valuations will be carried out by Council staff or consultants as required or determined by vandalism, vehicle damage, building development, road construction or other works which would require compensation for replacement damage and tree maintenance or tree removal.

4 Electric line clearance

Council believes that safe and reliable supply of electricity to the community is a vital service. Whilst agreeing with the necessity for safety and continuity of supply, Council will encourage service providers underground or Aerial Bundle Conductors (ABC) power wherever possible.

In accordance with Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2020, line clearance is the responsibility of the local electrical power distribution company. Energy Safe Victoria is responsible for ensuring electrical safety and Council must comply with these regulations.

Whilst Moyne Shire does not have any Declared Areas, Declared Areas Under the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations require Council to be responsible for powerline clearance in Declared Areas within the Municipality. Authorities and contractors should check with Council before starting work verify if trimming works are in a declared area.

Restricted Zoned Trees on declared VicRoads, roads, and highways, outside of speed restricted zones tree maintenance is the responsibility of VicRoads.

Aerial Bundled Conductors Council encourages electricity supply companies to fit conductors with ABC where under grounding is not being considered. Installation of ABC and relocation of electric lines significantly reduces the need for intervention in the growth of Council's trees.

5 Excavations and installation near trees

Trees can be severely damaged when works are undertaken near them. These can include bark damage, branch breakage, chemical poisoning, and root damage.

Where work is to be conducted in the vicinity of a tree, the site, job requirements and work procedures must be assessed for their potential to cause damage to the tree and a work plan developed that actively protects the tree.

The following diagram (Figure 9) shows frequently used phrases used to describe aspects of a tree for tree protection.

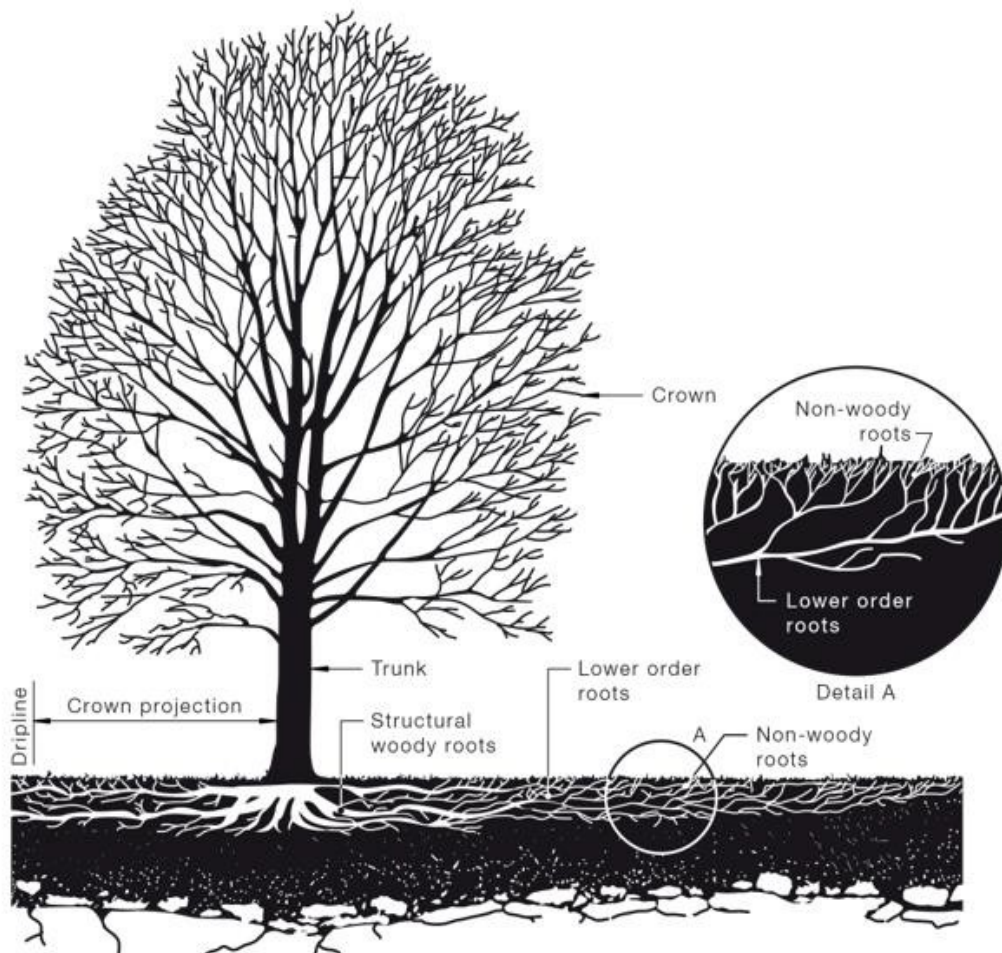


Figure 9 - Tree protection aspects

5.1 Protection of trunk and canopy

The trunk and canopy of a tree are highly visible and, in most cases, comprise most of the benefits the tree has to offer to the community. As such, protection of them is extremely important. Damage, including bark damage, to the trunk and major limbs can have serious detrimental consequences for the health and aesthetic value of the tree.

Where a tree has suffered damage to the trunk or canopy, the tree must be inspected by a Council representative before works continue to determine any remedial action that may be required. Costs for such remedial action shall be borne by the person causing the damage.

5.2 Excavation

Protection of the root system of a tree is essential for its long-term health and its mechanical stability. Even minor damage to the root system can lead to catastrophic failure by allowing pathogenic organisms into the tree, causing decay to damage the tree far more than the original injury. Such damage may take years before actually leading to death or failure of the tree.

Apart from actual fracture of the root system, roots can be damaged or killed by compaction of the soil. Compaction reduces available air space in the soil and may also lead to waterlogging. These factors lead to reduced oxygen levels in the soil. If insufficient oxygen is available to the roots, they will die. This damage is difficult to detect but may be more damaging to the tree than direct damage. Wet soils and soils with high clay content are especially prone to compaction.

Major tree root system damage will almost always lead to removal of the tree; therefore, prevention of damage is essential. Persons who cause damage to tree root systems of Council trees will be liable for costs and compensation for remedial works and/or removal of the tree and the loss of amenity to the community.

5.3 Boring

Where boring is to be used, the following conditions must be met:

All services should be routed outside the TPZ. If underground services must be routed within the TPZ, they should be installed by directional drilling or in manually excavated trenches.

The directional drilling bore should be at least 600 mm deep. The project arborist should assess the likely impacts of boring and bore pits on retained trees.

- For manual excavation of trenches the project arborist should advise on roots to be retained and should monitor the works. Manual excavation may include the use of pneumatic and hydraulic tools.
- Boring must be sufficiently deep as to prevent damage to woody roots.
- Works must not cause compaction of the soil in the tree root zone.

5.4 Trenching

Open trenching is actively discouraged in the vicinity of Council trees.

Where underground infrastructure is to be installed directly beneath the trunk of a Council tree, boring techniques must be used.

5.5 Prevention of soil compaction

Persons performing works near Council trees will do so in a manner that will prevent compaction of the soil in the tree root zone within the dripline or within three meters of the tree trunk, whichever is greater.

- No vehicle or vehicle mounted equipment shall be parked, driven, or operated,
- No materials shall be unloaded or stored,

- No heavy pedestrian operated equipment is to be stored or operated (e.g., rollers, whackers),
- Where the soil is wet or has significant clay content, all activity including pedestrian,
- activity shall be excluded.

5.6 Use and storage of materials

No materials, chemicals, spoil, or debris shall be used, stored, or dumped within the dripline of or within three metres of the trunk of a tree, whichever is greater. This includes concrete, lime, bricks, soil, paint, and detergents.

5.7 Activities restricted within the tree protection zone (TPZ)

Activities generally excluded from the TPZ include but are not limited to;

- (a) machine excavation including trenching
- (b) excavation for silt fencing
- (c) cultivation
- (d) storage
- (e) preparation of chemicals, including preparation of cement products
- (f) parking of vehicles and plant
- (g) refuelling
- (h) dumping of waste
- (i) wash down and cleaning of equipment
- (j) placement of fill
- (k) lighting of fires
- (l) soil level changes
- (m) temporary or permanent installation of utilities and signs, and (n) physical damage to the tree.

6 Management of Trees Near Existing Structures / Infrastructure

Trees have had a significant economic investment in the planting, management, and maintenance, usually to be counted over decades. As such, their value must be considered in the event of alleged, potential, or actual damage to structures.

A mature tree has taken many years to grow and usually cannot be moved or replaced if removed, whereas most structures can be repaired, moved, or replaced in a relatively short time. When calculated, the economic value of the tree may far exceed that of the structure. The economic loss inherent in a tree must be balanced with the value of the structure.

6.1 Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel

As Council is most likely responsible for the maintenance of the trees and these structures, the procedure for dealing with damage to trees and infrastructure is as follows:

Council's response to this type of damage shall be:

- Damage inspected by authorised representative
- If repair is required, the damaged section shall be removed, and the offending roots exposed
- Roots with a diameter less than 60 mm shall be cleanly cut with a sharp saw at the discretion of the on-site maintenance staff or contractor
- Roots of a diameter greater than 60 mm shall not be cut unless authorised by the Council representative
- If roots which have caused or are likely to cause damage cannot be cut without affecting the stability or health of the tree, options such as re-alignment of the structure and root barriers shall be considered. The level of expenditure committed to the redesign shall reflect the condition and significance of the tree
- If no other option is practical, the tree may be removed in accordance with these procedures.

6.2 Electric powerlines

Refer to "Electric Line Clearance" above.

6.3 Fences, driveways and other private property

All claims for damages against Council trees shall be referred to Council's Risk Management Officer.

6.4 Termites

Where a customer has sound evidence to suggest that there are termites in a Council tree near their property, the Council will arrange for the tree to be inspected by a licensed pest inspector. Where termites are found, they will be treated by an approved method. This inspection and treatment will be at Council's expense.

Where the tree is structurally compromised or in poor condition, the tree should be removed in preference to treatment of the termites.

Termites are a natural part of the environment. Action by Council is done *ex gratia* and in no way infers any liability regarding any alleged damage to property.

6.5 Pipes

Damage to pipes by tree roots comes about by either:

- the invasion of the pipe by roots through a fault in the pipe and subsequent blockage as roots grow within the pipe
- mechanical fracture of pipes by pressure as roots grow adjacent to the pipe
- The former is the more common and is a result of poor pipeline construction materials and techniques. Roots cannot enter a pipeline unless there is a pre-existing fault or gap. Roots cannot "drill" into intact pipes, but they can exploit minute gaps around seals and joints.

6.6 Other authorities

Section 67 of the Water Industry Act 1994 gives extensive powers to water authorities regarding control over trees. Except in the case of remnant indigenous trees, the water authority can demand the removal of Council trees at Council's expense to facilitate the repair of their infrastructure. These demands are often made at short notice. There are also very few requirements of the water authorities to investigate alternative remedies unless Council agrees to meet any additional costs.

Where a request is made by an authority for tree removal, other than in an emergency, that does not meet the requirements for tree removal, approval will be granted only where:

- A written application has been received by Council, accompanied by a plan showing the proposed development and the Council trees affected, and
- All reasonable alternatives to removal have been investigated, costed, and documented in the application, and
- Affected residents (to be determined by Council) have been notified in writing and have had at least ten working days in which to object to the removal.

6.7 Private drains and sewers

All claims for damages against Council trees shall be referred to Council's Risk Management Officer.

7 Inspections and monitoring

Regular monitoring is required for competent management of all trees on land owned by Council or under Council's control. Inspections will be conducted to assess for defects, pests and tree health, condition, and overall risks.

Inspections may occur routinely, from a request raised by the public or other Council employees while undertaking their normal work duties or be programmed as part of Council's regular condition audit of trees.

7.1 Programmed condition audits

Are conducted by a qualified Arborist to assess the general health of trees and to identify deficiencies in the structural integrity of assets which if untreated, are likely to affect the life and safety of the tree. Condition audit inspections consider, but are not limited to the tree's current health, significance, stability, structure, and vigour of the tree and any risks associated with the condition of the tree.

A works program is then developed to take remedial actions recommended. Given the number of trees in Council's ownership and the scale of the task, remedial works are prioritised based on risk. Urgent works, high profile and visitation areas are given priority.

7.2 Ad Hoc reactive / safety inspections

Identify defects likely to create danger or serious inconvenience to users of the network or the wider community. They are ad hoc by nature and may be undertaken following notification to council by members of the community through the Customer Request System or by council employees while undertaking their normal work duties. These notifications are of defects and safety deficiencies with any subsequent inspection conducted by an appropriate Council officer.

7.3 Incident inspections

An incident report is prepared for the gathering of information for the analysis of the causes of accidents relating to trees and may be required for use in potential legal proceedings.

7.4 Works Identified from a Road Management Plan

Inspections are carried out in accordance with the timeframes stated in the Road Management Plan. Works identified via other inspection regimes are prioritised based on a qualitative tree risk assessment and conducted in line with Council's Customer protocols.

Appendix 1 Definitions

For the purpose of these procedures, the definitions below apply.

Amenity trees

Trees with recreational, functional, environmental, ecological, social, health or aesthetic value rather than for production purposes.

Arborist

The person with training to AQF Level 3 in Arboriculture, or above, or equivalent recognized and relevant experience that enables the person to perform the tasks required by this Standard. Inspection of trees should be carried out by a person competent in arboriculture assessment (minimum AQF Level 3 in arboriculture Plus Level 5 Assess Trees module)

Australian Qualification Framework (AQF)

A national framework for all educational and training purposes in Australia.

Bark

All tissues outside the vascular cambium.

Branch

A lateral shoot on a main axis such as a trunk or another branch. A branch arising off a trunk is a first order branch. A branch arising off a first order branch is a second order branch and so on. Second and successive orders of branches may be referred to as 'lateral branches'.

Branch bark ridge

Raised or furrowed bark in the branch union that marks where the branch wood and trunk wood overlap.

Branch collar

Overlapping trunk and branch tissue forming a swelling around the base of many branches and containing defensive chemicals.

Bud

Embryonic vegetative or reproductive tissue which may be terminal, axillary or adventitious in origin. Buds can be active or dormant.

Codominant stems

Stems or trunks of about the same size originating from the same position from the main stem.

Compartmentalisation

Dynamic tree defence process involving protection features that resist the spread of pathogens and decay causing organisms.

Coppicing

The cutting of a trunk close to ground level in order to stimulate the production of epicormic shoots.

Crown

Portion of the tree consisting of branches and leaves and any part of the trunk from which branches arise.

Crown lifting

The removal of the lower branches.

Crown maintenance

Pruning that does not reduce the volume of the crown and retains the structure and size of the tree.

Crown modification

Pruning that changes the form and habit of the tree.

Crown thinning

The selective removal of branches that does not alter the overall size of the tree.

Deadwooding

The removal of dead branches.

Decay

The process of degradation of woody tissues by micro-organisms.

Epicormic bud

Latent or adventitious bud located at the cambium and concealed by the bark.

Epicormic shoots

Shoots produced from epicormic buds at the cambium of trunks or branches.

Espalier

The training and pruning of trees against a wall or on a trellis.

Extruded bark

Outwardly formed bark at the junction of branches or codominant stems.

Feathering

See Lion's tailing.

Final cut

This is the final cut in the process of the reduction or removal of branches and stems. The purpose of this final cut is to reduce the risk of microorganism infection according to the principles of branch attachment and compartmentalisation to encourage even wound closure (occlusion).

Flush cut

A cut that damages or removes the branch collar or removes branch and stem tissue and is inconsistent with branch attachment as indicated by the branch bark ridge.

Formative pruning

The pruning of young and establishing trees with the general aims of directing plant growth and/or developing a sound structure.

Hanging branches

Unattached, cut, or broken branches that are caught in the tree canopy.

Included bark

Inwardly turned bark within the junction of branches or codominant stems.

Lateral

A branch arising from another branch.

Lion's tailing

The practice of removing branches from the interior of the canopy leaving most of the foliage on the ends of branches. This is not crown thinning and may lead to structural hazards.

Lopping

The practice of cutting branches or stems between branch unions or internodes.

Natural target pruning

The removal of branches, stems, and stubs such that final cuts are achieved in accordance to principles of branch attachment and compartmentalisation.

Pathogen

A disease-causing organism.

Pleaching

The weaving and intertwining of branches into various forms, which are then maintained by continual pruning.

Pollarding

A specialized pruning technique that establishes branches ending in a pollard head of buds and vigorous shoots. Pollarding is not synonymous with lopping and topping.

Pre-cutting

The practice of making an undercut, side cuts and/or scarf cuts that reduce the risk of a branch splitting or tearing. These cuts are made beyond the branch collar and precede the final cut.

Reduction pruning

The removal of the ends of branches to lower internal lateral branches or stems in order to reduce the height and/or spread of the tree.

Remedial (restorative) pruning

The removal of damaged, diseased, or lopped branches back to undamaged tissue in order to induce the production of shoots from latent or adventitious buds, from which a new crown will be established.

Selective pruning

The removal of identified or specified branches.

Stem

Organ which supports branches, leaves, flowers, and fruit; may also be referred to as 'the trunk'.

Stem bark ridge

The ridge of bark that forms in the union between codominant stems.

Topiary

The practice of training and shearing plants into various shapes.

Topping

Reducing the height of a tree through the practice of lopping.

Tree

Long lived woody perennial plant greater than (or usually greater than) 3 m in height with one or relatively few main stems or trunks.

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)

The International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) is the industry standard required to undertake the assessment of trees. An arborist with training to AQF Level 5 may be suitably qualified to undertake the risk assessment and report writing components.

Tree worker

A worker who through related training (minimum AQF Level-2 in arboriculture) or equivalent recognized and relevant on-the-job experience, has demonstrated competence in pruning according to this Standard.

Trunk

The main stem.

Wound

An opening that is created when the bark is cut, removed, or injured.

Appendix 2 Recommended Tree Species List

Other species may be considered subject to Council Officer approval. Species will be approved in accordance with Section 2, Tree Planting.

Tree Species Descriptions

Small trees maturing to <8m

Species Detail		Characteristic Form
Acacia pendula Silver Myall	Native Evergreen	Rounded, small, evergreen tree to 6m, with pendulous branches and attractive silver foliage. The tree is drought tolerant and probably one of the longer-lived acacias.
Acer buergerianum Trident Maple	Exotic Deciduous	Oval to upright, moderately dense medium sized tree to 8m. The form would suit restricted sites however will require pruning under power lines. Autumn colour is an attractive orange-red.
Acer campastre Hedge Maple	Exotic Deciduous	Oval to round, dense small to medium sized tree to 7m with yellow autumn foliage. Probably suitable under power lines
Agonis flexuosa West Australian Willow Myrtle	Native Evergreen	Broad spreading, multistemmed, semi pendulous small tree to 8m. Attractive Evergreen small, white flowers cluster along stems from spring to summer.
Agonis flexuosa 'Burgundy' Burgundy Willow Myrtle	Native Evergreen	Broad spreading semi pendulous small tree with strong burgundy new growth. Attractive small, white flowers cluster along stems from spring to summer.
Allocasuarina verticillata Drooping She-Oak	Indigenous Evergreen	Small, rounded spreading tree to 6-8m with an open canopy and needle-like, dark green foliage.
Angophora hispida Dwarf Apple Myrtle	Native Evergreen	Small, rounded tree with twisting branches to 7m. The flowering period is in January when clusters of creamy white flowers provide a striking contrast against a background of olive-green leaves.
Banksia marginata Silver Banksia	Indigenous Evergreen	Normally a dense, stiffly branched shrub or small tree to 6m. Foliage is green on the top and white underneath. Flowers are yellow spikes mostly borne in Feb-June

Banksia praemorsa Cut-leaf Banksia	Native Evergreen	Small tree to 5m. The leaves are broad, about 50 mm long by 15 mm wide with toothed margins and with truncated ends. Flowers are wine red although yellows sometimes occur, with the spikes borne predominantly over winter and spring.
Callistemon Cultivars Bottlebrush	Native Evergreen	Large shrubs to small, rounded trees to 4-8m. There are many cultivars with varying flower colours, foliage, and habits. Cultivars include: 'Dawson River Weeper', 'Endeavour', 'Hannah Ray', 'Harkness', 'Kings Park Special', 'Mauve Mist' and 'Rose Opal'.
Callistemon viminalis Weeping Bottlebrush	Native Evergreen	Rounded small tree to 5m, with crimson bottlebrush flowers and pendulous foliage.
Corymbia ficifolia (dwarf form) Dwarf Red Flowering Gum	Native Evergreen	Dense rounded tree to 5-8m. Masses of pink, red or orange flowers are borne on the outside of the canopy over summer.
Eucalyptus forrestiana Fuchsia Mallee	Native Evergreen	Small mallet or mallee eucalypt less than 8m tall. The canopy is open and rounded with showy, pendulous orange-red flowers. The fruits are persistent on the tree and remain an orange-red colour.
Eucalyptus platypus Moort	Native Evergreen	Small, dense, and rounded tree to 6-10m. The leaves are small, round, and glossy green and the trunk is glossy green to copper in colour.
Eucalyptus torquata Coral Gum	Native Evergreen	Small open tree to 6-8m tall. The foliage is olive green, and the flowers are a pinkish orange in colour throughout spring and summer.
Fraxinus ornus Manna Ash	Exotic Deciduous	Small, rounded tree to 7-9m tall. Foliage is a lush green without showy autumn colour. The white flowers are showy and borne in dense clusters.
Hakea bucculenta Hot Pokers	Native Evergreen	Large shrub or small tree to 3-4m with an upright habit. The leaves are linear and stand vertical on the tree. The flowers are striking pink 'pokers' borne in winter.
Hakea francisiana	Native	

Grass-leaf hakea	Evergreen	Large shrub or small tree to 4m with an upright habit. The leaves are linear and stand vertical on the tree. The flowers are striking red or reddish purple 'pokkers' borne in winter.
Hakea laurina Pin-cushion Hakea	Native Evergreen	A shrub or small tree reaching 5m. Foliage is blue-green, up to 15 cm long, thick, and smooth. Flowering from April, the rounded pin-cushion flower heads are distinctive soft cardinal or cherry red, with projecting long styles, white to pale pink on aging.
Lagerstroemia Hybrids Crepe Myrtle	Exotic Deciduous	Multistemmed widespreading tree to 6-8m tall. The flowers are very showy in summer and the autumn colour are quite striking. Cultivars include, 'Lipan', 'Natchez', 'Sioux', 'Tuscarora', 'Yuma' and 'Zuni'.
Laurus nobilis Bay Laurel	Exotic Evergreen	Slow growing to 8m, this is the tree that the aromatic 'Bay Leaf' comes from in cooking. Dark glossy green leaves, it can have a tendency to sucker but can also be trained to a single stem.
Magnolia grandiflora 'Little Gem' Dwarf magnolia	Exotic Evergreen	Dwarf variety of Magnolia grandiflora to 4-8m. It has a dense growth habit, glossy leaves with a rusty reverse, and creamy white, perfumed flowers in spring and summer.
Malus ioensis 'Plena' Ornamental Apple	Exotic Deciduous	Small oval to rounded tree to 4-5m tall. The double flowers are showy in spring and the foliage displays striking autumn colour.
Metrosideros excelsa New Zealand Christmas Bush	Exotic Evergreen	Having a dome-like, spreading form to 8m. Leaves are oblong, leathery and covered in dense white hairs underneath with masses of vibrant red coloured flowers in November to January.
Olea europaea Olive	Exotic Evergreen	Small upright tree to 6-7m tall. The foliage is a silvery green and the trunk forms a twisted gnarled look with age. Two selections are almost fruitless, 'Swan Hill' or 'Tolley's Upright'.
Prunus xblireana Double Flowering Plum	Exotic Deciduous	Small tree to 4-6m tall, the double pink flowers in spring give way to bronzy purple foliage.

Medium-sized trees maturing to 8-15m

Acacia implexa Native

Lightwood	Evergreen	Small to medium erect evergreen tree to 8m tall, with dense bright green foliage and creamy acacia flowers from summer to autumn.
Acacia maidenii Maidens Wattle	Native Evergreen	A long lived and elegant tree with an upright to spreading dense medium to large canopy, with dark green foliage. Performs best with supplementary water during establishment although no long term special maintenance required.
Acer negundo 'Sensation' Box Elder	Exotic Deciduous	A small to medium sized tree to 9m. Tolerant of harsh conditions. Medium green, pinnate leaves show a reddish-brown tinge as emerging with Autumn colours bright red, orange and yellow.
Banksia integrifolia Coastal Banksia	Native Evergreen	Erect small to medium tree to 6-10m. Foliage is green on the top and white underneath. Flowers are yellow spikes borne throughout the year all over the tree.
Celtis australis Nettle Tree	Exotic Deciduous	Broad-crowned tree to 10-12m tall. The bark is smooth and grey, foliage is green and rough with serrated margins.
Corymbia eximia Yellow Bloodwood	Native Evergreen	Rounded tree to 10-12m tall with pendulous, blue-green, sickle-shaped foliage. Masses of creamy flowers are borne on the outside of the canopy in spring.
Corymbia ficifolia Red Flowering Gum	Native Evergreen	Dense rounded tree to 8-10m. Masses of pink, red or orange flowers are borne on the outside of the canopy over summer.
Eucalyptus erythrocorys Illyarrie	Native Evergreen	Tree or mallee to 8 m tall. Bark smooth, grey, or grey-brown to cream or white. Long green leaves contrast with large yellow flowers and distinctive red bud caps.
Eucalyptus leucoxydon Yellow Gum	Indigenous Evergreen	Medium upright to oval tree to 12m with an open canopy and creamy yellow flowers from winter to spring. The bark is more or less smooth with some rough basal peeling bark, white to grey in colour.
Eucalyptus porosa Malle Box	Native Evergreen	Mallee habit to 12m tall. Bark is rough on the lower stems and up to the smaller branches, with long glossy green leaves in a dense canopy. Predominantly white flowers

		are produced over cooler months to produce small cup shaped fruit.
Fraxinus pennsylvanica 'Urbdell' Urbanite Urbanite Green Ash	Exotic Deciduous	Medium sized tree 10-12m with large, pinnate, bright green leaves. Autumn colour is variable from yellow to deep burgundy.
Geijera parviflora Wilga	Native Evergreen	Extremely ornamental and tolerant of a wide range of soil and climate types, it can reach 9m in height. Pyramidal when young, it has attractive leathery, pendulous foliage and white strongly-scented flowers.
Lophostemon confertus Queensland Brush Box	Native Evergreen	Rounded, sometimes multistemmed, dense tree to 12-16m. The foliage is a glossy, dark green and the bark peels to reveal an orange-pink trunk.
Pyrus calleryana 'Aristocrat' Aristocrat Callery Pear	Exotic Deciduous	Oval to pyramidal small to medium tree to 10-12m tall. White flowers amass the stems in spring followed by bright green foliage. The autumn colour varies from yellow to red.
Pyrus calleryana 'Capital' Capital Callery Pear	Exotic Deciduous	Narrow, upright small tree to 10m. White flowers amass the stems in spring followed by bright green foliage. The autumn colour varies from yellow to purplish-red.
Pyrus calleryana 'Glen's Form' Chanticleer® Chanticleer Callery Pear	Exotic Deciduous	Upright oval small to medium tree to 12m. White flowers amass the stems in spring followed by bright green foliage. The autumn colour varies from yellow to purplish-red.
Ulmus parvifolia Chinese Elm	Exotic Semi-deciduous	Pyramidal to oval small to medium tree to 12m. The foliage is fine and is usually held on the tree over winter. If not managed the form can become very wide and spreading.
Zelkova serrata Zelkova	Exotic Deciduous	Semi-upright oval to vase shaped tree to 10-14m tall with small, serrated leaves that turn yellow and red in autumn. Ornamental trunk is grey peeling to reveal reddish underneath.

Large trees maturing to >15m

Aesculus hippocastanum Horse Chestnut	Exotic Deciduous	Medium to Large, domed crowned tree 15-25m. Flowers are white with a yellow to pink blotch at base.
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Angophora costata Smooth-barked Apple Myrtle	Native Evergreen	Medium to large, rounded tree with twisting branches to 12-25m. Showy cream flowers are borne on the outside of the canopy and the bark peels to reveal an orange pink trunk.
Araucaria heterophylla Norfolk Island Pine	Native Evergreen	The premier species of Port Fairy, it is a distinctive conifer with straight vertical trunks and symmetrical branches to a height 35m. The cones are squat, 10-12 cm long and take about 18 months to mature, disintegrating at maturity.
Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca' Blue Atlas Cedar	Exotic Evergreen	Pyramidal when young, branches become spreading when mature. Striking bluegreen leaves 15-20mm long are clustered on branches and blue-grey cones break up over time. A very long lived tree that is reasonable drought tolerant.
Corymbia citriodora Lemon-scented Gum	Native Evergreen	Narrow open medium to large, graceful tree to 20-25m. The trunk is smooth grey to white and the foliage smells strongly of lemon when crushed.
Corymbia maculata Spotted Gum	Native Evergreen	Medium sized to very tall upright tree to 25m with smooth mottled grey and dark grey trunk. The canopy is dense with large dark green eucalypt type leaves.
Eucalyptus melliodora Yellow Box	Indigenous Evergreen	Medium to tall open tree to 20-25m. The bark is rough and tightly held to the trunk and the foliage is semi-pendulous.
Ficus macrophylla Moreton Bay Fig	Native Evergreen	A very large and widespreading tree at maturity of 30x30m, this species is suited to open parkland. Flowers are inconspicuous and fruit is red-purple, round and ripening in spring by the thousands.
Metasequoia glyptostroboides Dawn Redwood	Exotic Deciduous	Columnar conifer to 20m. Bark is orange brown in strips and leaves are fine, feathery, and green in colour changing to pink-bronze during Autumn.
Pinus canariensis Canary Islands Pine	Exotic Evergreen	Upright conifer to 30m with thick, irregularly cut plates or red to orange-brown bark and classical pine needles.
Platanus x acerifolia London Plane	Exotic Deciduous	Rounded medium to large tree to 15-25m with maple like foliage. The bark forms a patchy mosaic of creams, greens and greys and is attractive.
Quercus cerris Turkey Oak	Exotic Deciduous	A widespreading tree at maturity of 20m tall. A resilient tree that has good autumn colour and acorns 'sit' in a 'furry' cup that adds interest.

Quercus ilex Holm Oak	Exotic Evergreen	Slow growing medium to large tree developing a rounded canopy to 14-16m tall. Small leaves are a dark, glossy green with a lighter underside.
Schinus molle Peppercorn tree	Exotic Evergreen	Schinus molle is an evergreen tree that grows to 15 meters. It is native to an area from the Peruvian Andes to southern Brazil. The bright pink fruits of Schinus molle are often sold as "pink peppercorns" although S. molle is unrelated to true pepper.
Fagus sylvatica 'purpurea' Copper Beech	Exotic Deciduous	Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea' (European Beech) is a beautiful, large, deciduous tree with a densely pyramidal to rounded-spreading crown. Its foliage of broadly elliptic, lustrous, coppery to deep purple leaves, turns copper-red in the fall.



Appendix 3

Nature Strip Tree Planting Permit Application

Applicant details:

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email: _____

Property Details:

Address: _____

Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Description:

Are plants used from the recommended species as advised by Council?

Yes No

Are plants listed in the street tree management plan (Port Fairy only applications)?

Yes No

If yes, tree species and size as recommended by Council:

Note: Applications for planting in front of only one household frontage will not be considered.

Applications should be for nature strips on both sides of the street within an urban block with an average of one tree per household block spacing with a minimum of six trees to be planted.

Are you willing to cover the costs including installation and maintenance?

Note costs to be advised by Council.

Yes No

Have you discussed the proposed nature strip tree planting with neighbours, landlord or community?

Yes (Please provide evidence of community support) No

Plan showing the proposed planting, house numbers, street names, all existing infrastructure (including driveways and utilities), adequate space for rubbish collection, safe passage of pedestrians, line of sight traffic, location and species of any other trees already in the street and distance of planting from the kerb?

Yes No

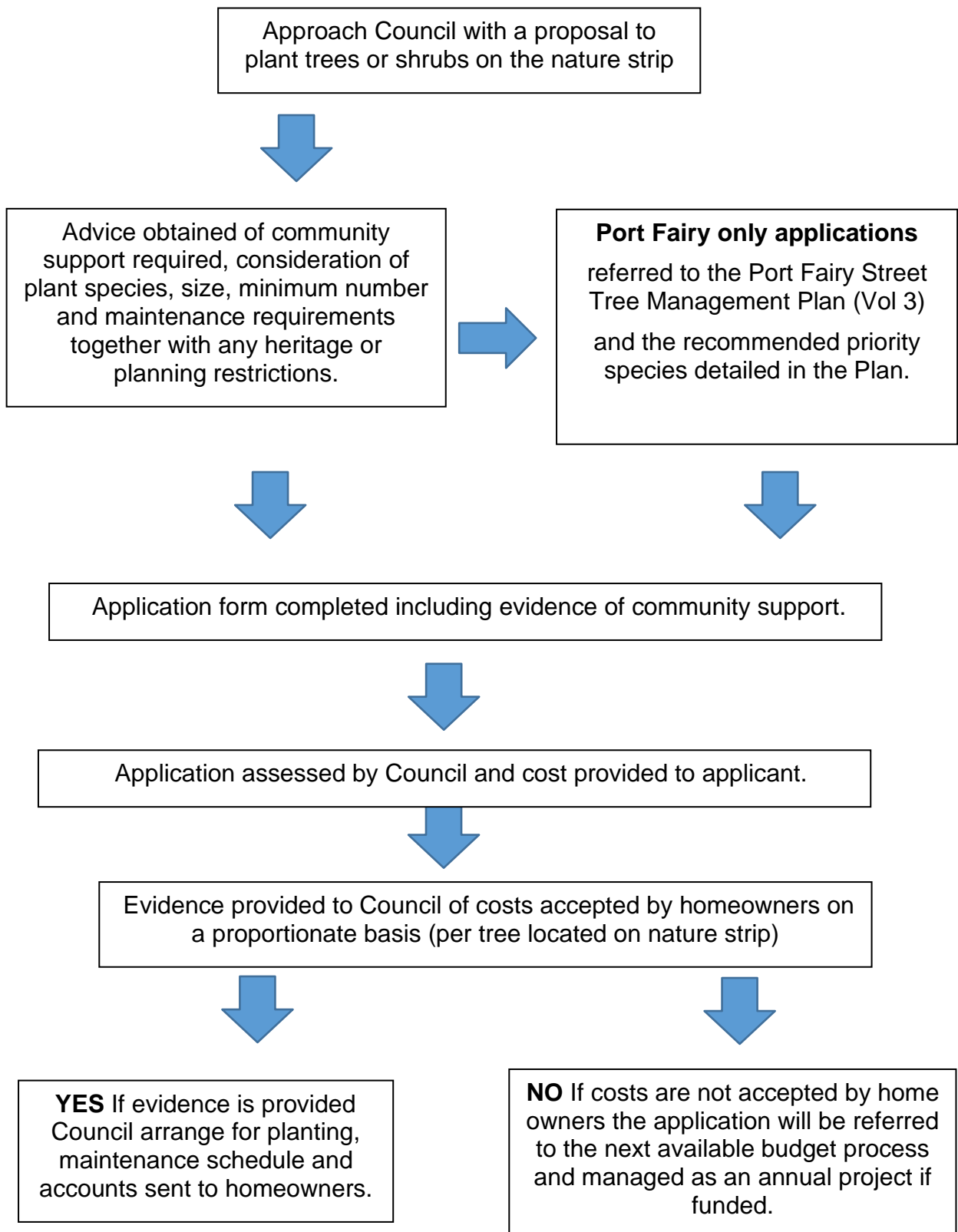
Plan of proposed plantings:

NOTE

Nature strip plantings should be maintained in a weed free and neat condition. Synthetic grass, irrigation, rocks, formal gardens, vegetable gardens, other low laying plantings or other obstructions such as garden furniture, pot plants and sculptures are not permitted on the nature strip.

The information requested on this form will be used solely by Moyne Shire Council. We will not use your personal information for any other purpose without first seeking your consent, unless authorised or required by law. The Council may not be able to process your request unless sufficient information is given. You may apply to Moyne Shire Council for access to and/or amendment of the information by phoning 1300 65 65 64.

APPLICATION FLOWCHART



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