



DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH

Tree Management Policy

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DISTRICT COUNCIL of PETERBOROUGH

TREE MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. Introduction

The District Council of Peterborough has a unique landscape and a diverse rural environment, with the trees in the townships and rural settings contributing greatly to the area, providing many benefits including a habitat for native wildlife and many species of native vegetation. One important function in the area is the protection and enhancement of this environment to ensure that trees within the area are managed appropriately through the use of relevant legislation and procedures. Any landowner requesting or wishing to carry out work in relation to trees on Council property must consider the Tree Management Policy and consult Council.

Ratepayers and members of the general public must not remove any trees from any road.
Maximum Penalty: \$5.000

No living or dead street tree shall be removed unless authorized by Council. In urgent cases where it is reasonably considered that a dangerous situation or condition exists, this provision may be waived and the facts reported to Council as soon as possible.

Further Information can be obtained from Council's Roadside Vegetation Management Plan and should be read in conjunction with the Tree Management Policy.

2. Council will refuse to undertake the following works

- 2.1 Removal of healthy and stable trees
- 2.2 Removal of trees for views
- 2.3 Pruning of trees contrary to Australian Standard 4373, Pruning of Amenity Trees
- 2.4 Removal of heritage trees significant to the area
- 2.5 Any pruning work outside what a particular species will tolerate, and
- 2.6 Removal of native vegetation unless permission has been given from the Native Vegetation Council

The Works Manager shall assess and take appropriate action on requests from the public for the removal and / or trimming of trees within the Council district.

3. Council will undertake or approve the following works

Council will only undertake pruning or removal following an appropriate assessment of the request. Only then will appropriate work be determined in accordance with Australian Standard 4373, Pruning of Amenity Trees.

3.1 Council shall make an assessment of requests for the removal or trimming of trees on Council land, subject to the following:

- 3.1.1 Any potential danger
- 3.1.2 The health of the tree
- 3.1.3 Any heritage, scenic and environmental issues
- 3.1.4 The habitat for threatened species
- 3.1.5 Relevant legislation.

3.2 Consent may be granted to the following:

- 3.2.1 Removal of hazardous trees
- 3.2.2 Root pruning of trees to alleviate damage to built and natural structures
- 3.2.3 Crown thinning for reasonable solar access
- 3.2.4 Crown lifting for pedestrian or vehicular access
- 3.2.5 Removal of trees in conflict with buildings, where all engineering alternatives have been considered
- 3.2.6 Selective pruning to remove branches causing conflict, such as building encroachment
- 3.2.7 Pruning to allow for vehicle sight distance at intersections and road signage, to appropriate Transport SA standards.
- 3.2.8 Pruning for service lines, as authorised by the service provider,
- 3.2.9 Removal of trees that cause a significant allergy, where supporting medical advice is provided.

4. Tree Trimming

- 4.1 Council performs works on its own trees within appropriate legislative constraints using correct procedures. Requests from the public for trimming or pruning of trees can be lodged in writing to Council by completing an appropriate works request form. The request will be recorded and referred to the Works Manager for assessment. A determination will then be made and any necessary work referred to Council's Gardening staff or approved contractual service provider for action. The person responsible for initiating the request is also to be notified of the determination as part of this process.
- 4.2 Tree trimming is carried out by Council staff or contractual service provider to improve vision at intersections and on/near any driveway, including the removal of new growth. Pruning of trees will be carried out to ensure the tree remains in a healthy and aesthetic state.
- 4.3 If trees overhang on a road/footpath from a private property .the property owner may be requested to remove the offending limbs/foliage at their own cost and dispose of accordingly.
- 4.4 Council may issue an order pursuant to Section 254 of the Local Government Act 1999 ordering the removal of overgrown vegetation, the cutting back of overhanging branches or the removal of a tree.
- 4.5 If the work is not performed, then Council reserves the right to perform the work and recover the costs pursuant to Section 257 of the Local Government Act, 1999.

Tree heights are to be cleared for pedestrian and vehicular access to a clearance site of 3 metres.

5. Tree Removal

It is Council's policy to retain all trees, which are growing on road reserves and other reserves except in the following circumstances:

- 5.1 Where roads are widened or re-constructed (or will be in the foreseeable future) and it is not possible to avoid the trees.
- 5.2 Where the trees are on a surveyed fence line.
- 5.3 Where trees affect public utilities in any way, such as power lines, water mains, telephone cables or overhead wires.
- 5.4 Where trees require thinning to enable the better species to grow to maturity.
- 5.5 Where trees affect Council infrastructure in any way such as kerb, guttering, footpaths etc.
- 5.6 Where a tree has been removed it is Council's policy to replace that tree with a species that is indigenous to the District Council of Peterborough area or as specified as suitable for this area in accordance with Appendix 1 attached.

Where a request from the public for the removal of a tree or trees is received that cannot be dealt with under this policy, the request must be referred to Council elected members for resolution.

The Works Manager shall have the authority to remove native vegetation from roadways where it is necessary to do so to facilitate roadwork, including footpaths, kerb and gutter and drainage, after obtaining Native Vegetation Council permission or an exemption under the Native Vegetation Act.

6. Breaches of the Tree Management Policy

- 6.1 A breach of the Tree Management Policy occurs when unauthorized works are carried out on a "tree" by any person(s).
- 6.2 To avoid any breach of the Tree Management Policy, It is suggested that before any tree works are undertaken, the landowner / members of the general public contact Council to determine if they require Council consent. In addition, the landowner / members of the general public should obtain a copy of Council's Tree Management Policy and positively identify the tree on which the proposed works are to be carried out.

Works undertaken on protected trees due to incorrect identification will be considered as a breach of the Tree Management Policy.

- 6.3 Council considers unlawful damage to trees as a serious breach of the law. Any unlawful damage to trees will be pursued to the full extent of the law.
- 6.4 For any enquiries regarding pruning and removal of trees and bushes, contact the District Council of Peterborough Council Office during business hours.

APPENDIX 1.

TREE SPECIES INDIGENOUS TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH AREA

SPECIES NAME	TYPE	APPROX. HEIGHT (METRES)
Acacia aneura (Mulga)	Tree	3-4
Acacia argyrophylla (Silver Mulga)	Shrub	2
Acacia brachybotrya (grey mulga bush)	Shrub	2
Acacia calamifolia (Wallowa)	Shrub	2
Acacia hakeoides (Hakea Wattle)	Shrub	2
Acacia notabilis (notable wattle)	Shrub	1-2
Acacia oswaldii (Umbrella Wattle)	Tree	3-4
Acacia pycnantha (Golden Wattle)	Tree	4
Acacia victoriae ssp victoriae (Elegant Wattle)	Shrub	2-3
Acacia wilhelmiana (Dwarf nealie)	Shrub	2
Beyeria lechenaultii (Felted Wallaby Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Beyeria opaca (Smooth Wallaby Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Bursaria spinosa (Sweet Bursaria)	Shrub	2-3
Correa glabra var. turnbullii (rock correa)	Shrub	1-2
Cratystylis conocephala (Bluebush Daisy)	Shrub	1-2
Dodonaea lobulata (Lobed Leaf Hop- Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Dodonaea subglandulifera (mallee hop- bush)	Shrub	1-2
Dodonaea viscosa ssp.angustissima (Narrow-leaf hop- bush)	Shrub	1-2
Eremophila alternifolia (Spotted Fucia Bush)	Shrub	2
Hakea leucoptera ssp.leucoptera (Needlewood)	Shrub	2-3
Halgania andromedifolia (scented blue flower)	Shrub	1
Indigofera australis var. australis Australian Indigo)	Shrub	1
Lasiopetalum behrii (Pink Velvet Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Maireana sedifolia (Bluebush)	Shrub	1
Myoporum montanum (western Boobialla)	Shrub	1-2
Olearia calcarea (crinkle-leaf daisy-bush)	Shrub	1
Olearia decurrens (Clammy Daisy-bush)	Shrub	1
Pimelea stricta (erect riceflower)	Shrub	0.5
Pomaderris paniculosa (mallee pomaderris)	Shrub	1-2
Rhagodia parabolica (Mealy Saltbush)	Shrub	1-2
Santalum acuminatum (Quandong)	Tree	3-4
Santalum spicatum (Sandlewood)	Tree	2-3
Senna artemisioides ssp. artem (Silver Cassia)	Shrub	1-2
Senna artemisioides ssp. coriacea (Desert Cassia)	Shrub	1-2
Senna artemisioides ssp. filifolia (Narrow-leafed Cassia)	Shrub	1-2
Senna artemisioides ssp. petiolaris (Punty Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Spyridium phlebopphyllum (inland spyridium)	Shrub	1

TREE SPECIES SUITABLE FOR PLANTING IN THE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERBOROUGH AREA

SPECIES NAME	TYPE	APPROX. HEIGHT (METRES)
Acacia stenophylla (silver cooba)	Tree	3-10
Callistemon Harkness (Bottlebrush Gawler Hybrid)	Shrub	3-5
Callistemon rugulosu (Scarlet Bottlebrush)	Shrub	3-5
Eremophila bignoniiflora	Shrub	1-2
Eremophila polyclada (Twiggy Emu Bush)	Shrub	1-2
Eucalyptus campaspe (silver topped gimmet)	Tree	5-10
Eucalyptus eremophila (Tall Sand Mallee)	Tree	3-8
<i>Eucalyptus Torquata (Coral gum)</i>	Tree	3-10
Grevillea (wilipara Gem)	Shrub	2-5
Hymenosporum flavum (Native frangipani)	Large tree	
Leptospermum lacvigatum (Coastal Tee Tree)	Shrub	4-6
Melaleuca huegelii (Honey Myrtle)	Shrub	3-4
Melaleuca lanceolata (Moonah)	Tree	3-5
Melaleuca uncinata (Broom Bush)	Shrub	2-3
Myoporum insular (Boobialla)	Shrub	2-4