



# Tree Protection

## INFORMATION FOR UNDERTAKING WORKS NEAR COUNCIL TREES

This document provides information for the protection of Council managed trees during development. The document applies to all trees in the municipality that are either owned or managed by the City of Wyndham (Council).

All works near public trees must abide by the protection and retention requirements outlined in this document, in accordance with Council's Tree Policy, 2015 and City Forest & Habitat Strategy, 2017-2040.

### Tree Protection Requirements

It is rarely possible to repair stressed and injured trees. Care must be taken to ensure that no damage is caused to Council tree trunks, roots, canopy or branches during works.

The most important consideration for the successful retention of trees is to allow appropriate above and below ground space for a tree to continue to grow. This requires the allocation of a Tree Protection Zone.

### Tree Protection Zones

A Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) must be established for the duration of any works near a Council tree.

A Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) is an area where development activity must be minimized, as any works within a TPZ has the potential to cause damage to the tree. The TPZ must be calculated in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard (currently AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites). This method provides a TPZ that addresses both tree stability and growth requirements.

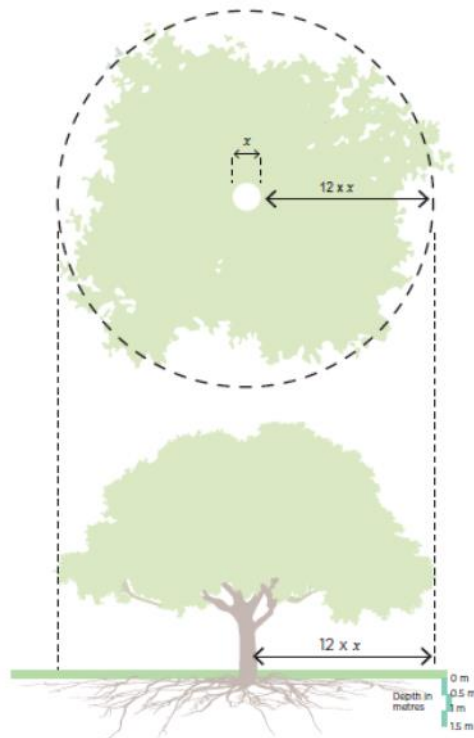
The radius of the TPZ is calculated by multiplying the tree's diameter at breast height (DBH) by 12. DBH is measured at 1.4 metres above ground level. The TPZ distance is measured as a radius from the center of the trunk at ground level.

A TPZ must be no less than 2 m radius. Any extension of the tree canopy beyond the TPZ measurement must also be afforded protection.

No modification to a TPZ can occur without consent from Council's arborist.

**Table 1 – Example of TPZ radius based on trunk diameter.**

Trunk diameter at breast height (DBH)	TPZ radius from center of trunk
<16 cm	2 m
20 cm	2.4 m
50 cm	6 m
75 cm	9 m
100 cm	12 m
125 cm +	15 m



**Figure 1: Calculating a Tree Protection Zone. The TPZ radius is equivalent to the trunk diameter at breast height multiplied by 12.**

**The Following are not permitted within a TPZ:**

- Parking of vehicles and plant;
- Refuelling;
- Stockpiling of building materials, debris or soil;
- Storage of equipment, and tools;
- Installation of service pits or hatches;
- Permanent or temporary vehicular crossings, and
- Soil disturbance (i.e. stripping, grade changes, placement of fill).

## Tree Protection Fencing

Temporary tree protection fencing must be erected around the perimeter of all tree protection zones prior to any buildings, works or demolition commencing. Where the TPZ is larger than the width of a nature strip, the fencing must be aligned along the back of kerb and edge of footpath, along the extent of the TPZ. The fencing must be a minimum of 1.5 metres above grade.

Tree protection zone fencing must be maintained for the duration of the construction activities.

Flagging and bunting are not appropriate for TPZ fencing.

## Tree pruning

Any required pruning or branch removal must be authorised by Council.

Pruning of roots and branches must be in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard (currently AS4373 Pruning of amenity trees).

## Excavation within a TPZ

Boring is the preferred method for installations of underground services within a TPZ.

Entry and exit pits for boring activities must be positioned outside the designated TPZ of each tree.

The extent or length of boring in the vicinity of trees will be determined by the TPZ.

Boring must occur at a depth of at least 1 metre below surface.

When boring is not possible, excavation shall be by hand or by a non-destructive method such as hydro-excavation at low pressure with consent from Council's arborist.

For further information please contact the City of Wyndham on 03 9742 0777

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