



# Information Sheet - Trees

## What you need to know about trees

***At the City of Burnside we value our trees highly. Trees are important for a variety of environmental, social and economic reasons. They add character to our landscape and provide shade, shelter and habitat for fauna.***

The City of Burnside is committed to maintaining and enhancing our trees, and ensuring the life and safety of our trees is a priority. Burnside is well known for its wide, tree-lined avenues.

For every tonne of timber formed in trees, one and a half tonnes of carbon dioxide is absorbed and one tonne of oxygen released into the atmosphere. By removing trees we are robbing our air of oxygen. Humans can go five weeks without food, five days without water, but only five minutes without oxygen. In one year, an acre of trees absorbs the amount of carbon dioxide produced when you drive your car 40,000 kilometres.

# Trees

## Some interesting facts about trees

### **Trees cool the streets**

Trees cool the city by shading our homes and streets and releasing water vapour into the air through their leaves.

### **Trees clean the air**

Trees absorb odours and pollutant gases (nitrogen oxides, ammonia, sulphur dioxide and ozone) and release oxygen back to us. They also filter particulates out of the air by trapping them on leaves and bark.

### **Trees save water**

Shade from trees slows water evaporation from thirsty lawns and gardens.

### **Trees help prevent water pollution**

Trees reduce runoff by breaking rainfall and directing the water down the trunk and into the earth below.

### **Trees improve the view**

Trees can mask concrete walls, parking lots, power lines and poles. They create an eye soothing canopy of green on our streets and roads. Trees absorb dust and wind and reduce glare.

### **Trees provide food**

Trees provide food for birds and wildlife and also provide us with fruits and nuts to eat.

### **Trees provide habitat for wildlife**

Trees provide excellent homes for birds, bees, possums and koalas.

### **Trees bring people together**

Tree plantings provide an opportunity for community involvement and empowerment that improves the quality of life in our neighbourhoods.

### **Trees save us money**

Trees reduce wind velocity, provide shelter and can save on heating and cooling costs.

## Taking care of trees

Council recognises the value of significant, regulated and other trees on public and private land, which support the ambience of our suburbs, provide wildlife corridors for native fauna and add value to the lives of residents.

Council seeks your assistance to care for trees to maintain the beautification of the area for the benefit of everyone. Tree roots can stretch horizontally one and a half times their height so the neighbour's tree is probably benefiting from you watering your garden and likewise your trees will also benefit from your neighbour's actions.

Large branches fall off trees and can create hollows which are the haven for a variety of birds and wildlife, including possums, rosellas, bats, lorikeets and parrots.

We can all play a part in maintaining our trees, our wildlife and our environment.

For further information contact City of Burnside on 8366 4200 or email

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