

Tree Management Guidelines





Contents

Tree Management Guidelines	4
Planting Street Trees within the City	4
Tree Maintenance	4
Tree Removal	5
Significant Trees within the City of Joondalup	6
Street Tree Planting Application Form	8
Significant Tree Nomination Form	10
Preferred Tree Species List	11
Residential Street Tree Species Guide	13



Tree Management Guidelines

A street verge is the area between the road and boundary of an adjoining property. The verge provides a safe pedestrian space and vehicular access to properties. The verge also accommodates public service utilities such as street lighting, bus stops, power, water, sewerage and telephone cables.

Street trees make a significant contribution to the urban streetscape in many ways, providing environmental, economic and social benefits. Street trees provide habitat for native fauna and cleanse the air in urban areas; they also add value to properties and surrounding areas and help reduce heating and cooling costs. The City of Joondalup is committed to maintaining and developing a rich and diverse urban forest with its streetscape for the benefit of the whole community.

Planting Street Trees within the City

The City endeavours to green and enhance the streetscape and will supply and plant trees on residential verges free of charge. The City does not permit residents to plant their own trees on the verge without prior approval (please complete a Street Tree Planting Application Form).

The City undertakes an annual street tree planting program during winter. All applications can be made on the attached form or via the City's website and submitted to the City by 31 August of each year. The trees will then be ordered, contract grown (subject to availability) and planted in the cooler, wetter months the following year.

Subject to a site inspection, the City may supply one tree for standard (non-corner) properties or up to three trees for corner properties (one on the short side of the property, two on the long side).

All applications for street tree planting will be assessed by the City to determine if there is adequate room on the verge for the tree/s, the number of trees that may be planted, species selection (for example, if an 'avenue theme' is already established), and any additional site constraints that may be relevant.

Site constraints can include verge width, length and shape, building set back, overhead powerlines, vehicle and pedestrian access, street lighting and sightlines. These factors will influence the most appropriate location of the street tree. Consideration should also be given as to whether an evergreen or deciduous tree would be most appropriate for the site.

Once a tree is planted on the verge it becomes the City's responsibility, however, the City relies on assistance from residents by asking that residents give a newly planted street tree at least one deep watering (40 litres) a week in the dry months for the first three years after planting.

The City has a preferred tree list (refer to page 10 residential verges) from which residents may choose a tree, in consultation with the City. This will ensure an appropriate tree species is selected for each location. A description and photographic representation of each tree can be found within the Street Tree Species Guide section.

Planting under powerlines

In accordance with Western Power requirements, only suitable trees will be planted under powerlines (refer to page 10 suitable for under powerlines).

Hardstand verge treatments

If a hardstand verge treatment (including synthetic turf) is installed, a minimum 4 metre square (2m x 2m) clearance must be made accessible to allow planting. The City can advise the most suitable position prior to the tree well being created.

As trees are living, growing and changing organisms, there may be times where an existing tree well and the associated hardstand treatment may need to be modified (i.e. increased) to accommodate the maturing size of the tree.

Tree Maintenance

Powerline pruning

Western Power requires the City to maintain street trees to a specified minimum distance clear of overhead powerlines. In suburbs where there are overhead powerlines, the City carries out powerline clearance pruning in accordance with Western Power requirements once annually at no cost to residents. The typical minimum safe distance between trees and powerlines is 2.5 metres horizontally and 2 metres below the wires. Please note that clearance zones may vary depending on the insulation type, voltage and the distance between each pole.

General pruning

Pruning is generally only undertaken to further the health and vitality of a tree. If there are concerns that the tree is a hazard, damaged, diseased, dangerous or dead, the City will investigate and arrange the most appropriate action.

The City considers requests for street tree pruning on a case-by-case basis. If the request is not related

to tree health, safety, boundary encroachment or regulatory clearances, the City will only approve the pruning if it is deemed appropriate.

Regulatory clearances are required and apply to vegetation clearance requirements from certain infrastructure. Clearances apply to road carriageways and footpaths to allow vehicle and pedestrian access; street trees are pruned to provide clearance of 4.5 metres above roads to the kerbline and 2.5 metres above footpaths to allow pedestrian access.

Severe pruning (lopping) is not an acceptable or suitable practice for maintaining street trees and is only applied to meet regulatory clearance requirements where applicable.

In the interest of public safety and for the health of the trees, only the City or its licensed contractors are to carry out any pruning or removal of street trees. Due to the number of trees within the City and the nature in which these works are implemented, the City/its contractor does not notify individual residents in advance when undertaking tree maintenance.

Driveway and crossover maintenance, including sweeping and cleaning, is the responsibility of the property owner. Where the wind blows fruits, nuts or leaves from street trees, the City is not legally obligated to remove these from private property or the crossover.

Unauthorised Pruning/Removal

Any unauthorised pruning or removal of trees within the City, undertaken by persons other than the City or its licensed contractor, is an offence and prosecution can occur.

Regulation 5 of the Local Government Uniform Local Provisions provides that it is an offence for a person, without lawful authority, to interfere with the soil or anything on local government property (which includes a verge) or take anything from land that is local government property. Additionally, Part 8.1 of the *Local Government and Public Property Local Law 2014 - Activities in public places* - states:

“A person must not -

- a) damage, injure, prune, remove or kill by felling, poisoning or any other means, a tree on a thoroughfare or verge unless the person is -*
 - i. acting under authority of the local government; or*
 - ii. a local government employee or contractor engaged by the local government to*

undertake work in relation to a particular tree or trees on thoroughfares in the district or on local government property generally; or

iii. acting under authority of a written law.”

Parties who breach the regulation and/or this Local Law may also be responsible for the amenity value, replacement and establishment costs of a suitable replacement tree.

Tree Removal

The City recognises the importance of preserving trees for the current community and for future generations, however, the City may remove trees under the following criteria:

- The tree is dead, in decline or past its safe useful life
- The tree has been deemed, by a suitably qualified person, as a hazard to persons or property and no pruning techniques can alleviate the hazard
- The tree is diseased or damaged past the point of recovery and no remedial treatment will be effective
- A development approved by the City deems the removal necessary, in which case the developer shall be responsible for the amenity value, removal, replacement and establishment costs of a replacement tree
- The tree has been planted by a resident without the City's approval and may be removed at the resident's expense
- The tree is deemed by the City to be an inappropriate species for that location.

Trees will not be pruned or removed for any of the following reasons:

- Falling leaves, bark or fruit causing a nuisance
- The variety is disliked, or a resident's preference is for a different species
- A perceived danger that the tree or a limb may fail
- Perceived damage to infrastructure
- The tree shades lawns, gardens, houses, pools, solar panels, etc.
- To enhance or clear views, inclusive of advertising signage
- Allergy and/or health problems
- For the installation of non-essential crossovers or verge paving.

Significant Trees within the City of Joondalup

Objective

The 'Significant Tree Register' aims to protect significant trees on land owned or managed by the City of Joondalup and is an important component of the City's philosophy of protecting natural heritage. Many individual and groups of trees are highly valued by the community, including remnants of the original vegetation of the area now left within an urban environment. These trees hold significant value for their visual/aesthetic, botanic/scientific, ecological and historical/commemorative/cultural and social aspects.

The City values the shade, habitat and amenity provided by trees on land owned or managed by the City and commends practices which seek to preserve mature trees where possible.

Officers and residents of the City are encouraged to recommend trees, considered to be of City-wide significance, for inclusion in the Significant Tree Register.

Scope

The Significant Tree Register is required so that the City has a single register of all significant trees on land owned or managed by the City. Through the Register, the City intends to compile and use information to conserve significant trees where nominations are approved.

The Register, along with its standardised assessment criteria, provides a consistent and analytical approach to maximise its value as a suitable reference document for all interested parties.

The Register is a 'living document' and will be updated following registration of all new significant trees as per the approved registration process described.

The Register is one of many ways the City is protecting its natural environment and must be viewed in the overall context of the suite of protection measures currently in place.

City's responsibilities

The City will maintain a Significant Tree Register. This will only include trees on land owned or managed by the City that are assessed as meeting the requirements of the City's guidelines for the assessment of significant trees.

For each tree or group of trees on the Significant Tree Register, a statement of significance and a management plan shall be prepared by the City in consultation with an arborist.

The City will undertake maintenance work as required to ensure the overall health of the tree/s on an ongoing basis.

Procedure

Any tree or group of trees that is not on the register, but is considered to be worthy of listing, may be nominated for the City to undertake an assessment and listing consideration in accordance with the City's guidelines for the assessment of significant trees on land owned or managed by the City.

A nomination form in accordance with the guidelines will need to be completed as part of the nomination process, prior to a nomination being accepted.

On acceptance, a notification letter is sent to interested parties with reasons for nomination and category of nomination.

The nomination is investigated by staff and if a nomination is supported, a report is prepared for the consideration of the Director Infrastructure Services.

On approval, the City will develop a statement of significance and a tree management plan, add the tree to the register and notify the nominee.

Selection criteria

Street trees listed by the National Trust, Heritage Council, Tree Society and/or that are listed on the City's Municipal Inventory and/or that are assessed in the future as meeting all the requirements to be nominated as a significant tree shall be listed on the Significant Tree Register.

An individual tree, a stand of trees or an avenue of trees, either native or exotic growing only on land owned or managed by the City, will be considered for inclusion in the register based on one or more of the following categories of significance.

Outstanding visual/aesthetic significance

- a) Tree/s that is outstanding for its/their height, trunk circumference and canopy spread
- b) Tree/s that occur in a prominent location or context
- c) Tree/s that contribute significantly to the landscape in which it/they grow (including streetscapes, parks, gardens or natural landscapes)
- d) Tree/s that exhibit an unusual growth form or physical feature, including unusually pruned forms
- e) Tree/s that are particularly old or vulnerable.

Botanic/scientific significance

- a) Tree/s that are of an important genetic value that could provide important and valuable propagating stock. This could include specimens that are particularly resistant to disease or climatic extremes or have a particular growth form
- b) Tree/s that demonstrate a likelihood of producing information that will help the wider understanding of natural or cultural history by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.

Significant ecological value

- a) Priority, rare, threatened or locally uncommon species or ecological community
- b) Indigenous remnant tree/s that predate the urban development in its immediate proximity
- c) Tree/s that make a significant contribution to the integrity of an ecological community, including its role as a seed source of specialised habitat
- d) A remnant specimen now reduced in range or abundance, which indicates the former extent of the species, particularly range limits
- e) Tree/s which is a significant habitat element for rare, threatened, priority or locally uncommon or common native species.

Historical, commemorative, cultural and social significance

- a) Tree/s that are associated with public significance or important historical event
- b) Tree/s highly valued by the community or cultural group for reasons of strong religious, spiritual, cultural or other social associations, including trees associated with aboriginal heritage and culture
- c) Tree/s associated with a heritage listed place and representative of that same historic era
- d) Tree/s that have local significance, are important to the local community and/or are recognised features of the immediate landscape.

Further information

If you have any queries regarding a tree adjacent to your property or within a park, please contact the City on **9400 4000** or **info@joondlaup.wa.gov.au**

Street Tree Planting Application Form

Please complete this application form and it return to the City of Joondalup:

PO Box 21

Joondalup WA 6919

Email: info@joondalup.wa.gov.au

Applications for street trees supplied and planted by the City must be received by **31 August**.

Residents who intend to supply and plant their own street tree/s from the Preferred Street Tree Species List must seek approval from the City prior to undertaking planting. Note: once a tree is planted on the verge it becomes the City's responsibility; any unauthorised pruning or removal of trees, undertaken by persons other than the City or its licensed contractor, is an offence and prosecution can occur.

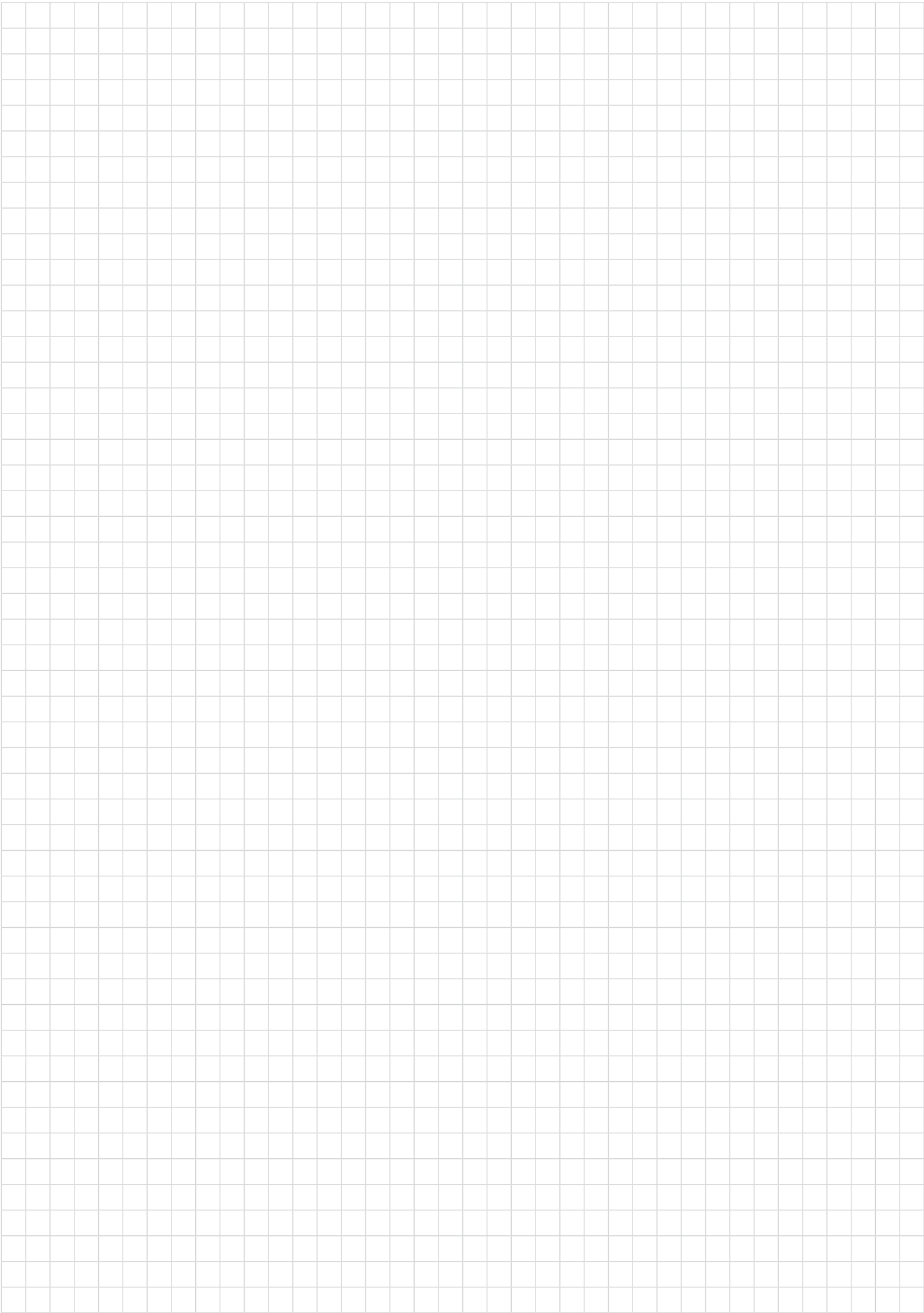
Property Details	
Date:	
House No:	Street:
Suburb:	Post Code:
Phone No:	Mobile:
Email:	
Please tick: <input type="checkbox"/> Standard verge (one tree)	<input type="checkbox"/> Corner verge (up to three trees). Number of trees requested:
<input type="checkbox"/> City to supply and plant tree/s	<input type="checkbox"/> I will supply and plant my own tree/s (please complete a sketch of the proposed tree location on the next page).

Note: if the applicant is not the owner of the property referred to above, please attach a letter from the property's owner giving approval for the intended works.

Application Details (see note above)	
Applicant Name:	
Owner Name:	
Owner Address:	Post Code:
Signature of Applicant:	
Preferred Species (subject to availability)	
Option1:	
Option 2:	
Option 3:	

Residents will be notified in writing if their application has been successful or declined. Due to the many factors that can impact on this program, successful applicants will not be contacted prior to the planting day.

Sketch of the proposed tree location



Significant Tree Nomination Form

Please complete this application form and return it to the City of Joondalup.

PO Box 21
Joondalup WA 6919
Email: info@joondalup.wa.gov.au

Person nominating tree/s (this information will be kept confidential):		
Name:		
Postal Address:		
Residential Address:		
Phone No:	Mobile:	
Email:		
Information about the tree/s		
Address of property containing street tree/s:		
Location description/recognisable location:		
Lot No:	House No:	
Street:		
Suburb:		
Please tick:	<input type="checkbox"/> Single tree	<input type="checkbox"/> Group of trees. Number of trees in group:
Common Name/s:		
Latin (Botanical) Name/s:		
Height:	metres	Trunk Diameter: metres
Estimated age:		
Selection criteria category/s:		

Note: the City has the absolute and unfettered discretion to accept or reject any nomination made and will be under no obligation to provide any reasons for its determination.

Preferred Tree Species List

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height range (m)	Suitable for under powerlines	Residential verges	Streetscapes	Parks	Deciduous	Bird Tucker
<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>	WA Peppermint	6-10		✓	✓	✓		✓
<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> 'Burgundy'	WA Burgundy Peppermint	5-8		✓	✓	✓		✓
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth-Barked Apple Myrtle	15-20			✓	✓		
<i>Araucaria columnaris</i>	Cook Pine	15-25			✓	✓		
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island Pine	25-30			✓	✓		✓
<i>Banksia attenuata</i>	Candlestick Banksia	6-10				✓		✓
<i>Banksia grandis</i>	Bull Banksia	8-12				✓		✓
<i>Banksia menziesii</i>	Firewood Banksia	8-10				✓		✓
<i>Banksia sessilis</i>	Parrot bush	4-5				✓		✓
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	12-15		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Callistemon</i> 'Kings Park Special'	Bottlebrush	4	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Callistemon phoeniceus</i>	Lesser bottlebrush	5-6	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
<i>Callitris preissii</i>	Rottnest Island Pine	6-8			✓			✓
<i>Corymbia eximia</i>	Yellow Bloodwood	10-12		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum	25-30			✓	✓		✓
<i>Cupanopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	8-12		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Eucalyptus decipiens</i>	Redheart Moit	6-10		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>	Tuart	20-25			✓	✓		✓
<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>	Jarrah	20-30			✓	✓		✓
<i>Eucalyptus nicholii</i>	Narrow Leaved Black Peppermint	10-20		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Eucalyptus petiolaris</i>	Pink Flowering Yellow Gum	15-25		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Eucalyptus pressiana</i>	Bell Fruited Mallee	2-3			✓			✓
<i>Eucalyptus salmonophloia</i>	Salmon gum	15-20				✓		✓

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height range (m)	Suitable for under powerlines	Residential verges	Streetscapes	Parks	Deciduous	Bird Tucker
<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> 'Rosea'	Pink Flowering Ironbark	10-15		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Eucalyptus tottiana</i>	Coastal Blackbutt	10-15			✓	✓		✓
<i>Eucalyptus torquata</i>	Coral Gum	3-7	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<i>Fraxinus griffithii</i>	Evergreen Ash	8-10		✓	✓	✓		
<i>Fraxinus oxycarpa</i> 'Raywoodii'	Claret Ash	10-15			✓	✓	✓	
<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	10-15		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> 'Natchez'	White Crepe Myrtle	4-6	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>	Rottneist Island Teatree	5-10			✓			
<i>Melaleuca nesophila</i>	Snowy Honey-Myrtle	3-5			✓			
<i>Melaleuca viridiflora</i>	Red-Flowering Paperbark	8-10			✓	✓		
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	10-12		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Prunus dulcis</i> ** △	Almond	4-10				✓	✓	✓
<i>Pyrus nivalis</i>	Snow Pear	8-10		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Manchurian Pear	10-15		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Tristanopsis laurina</i> luscious	Water Gum	7-12		✓	✓	✓		

△ mulched areas only ** nut tree trial

Residential Street Tree Species Guide

Agonis flexuosa (WA Peppermint)

A flowering evergreen native tree reaching 6 to 10 metres, with a weeping habit that forms a broad dome shape. The foliage is dark green in colour with smooth edges and produces small white flowers in spring.



Agonis flexuosa 'Burgundy' (WA Burgundy Peppermint)

A variety of *Agonis flexuosa* which is slightly smaller in size only 5 to 6 metres typically. The evergreen native has new foliage which is purple in colour, becoming green over time. Lovely weeping form with white flowers.



***Angophora costata* (Smooth-Barked Apple Myrtle)**

A large and wide tree growing to a height of between 15 and 25 m. The trunk is pink to pale grey, sometimes rusty-stained bark.

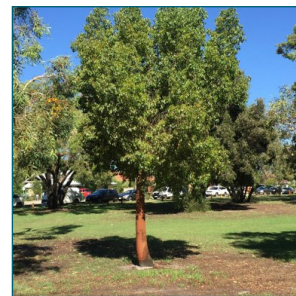
***Banksia sessilis* (Parrot bush)**

A small tree which grows to around 6m with prickly leaves and pale-yellow flowers. It is very bird attracting, parrots will eat the seed as well.



Brachychiton populneus (Kurrajong)

A native tree which although classed as summer deciduous generally does not lose its leaves. The tree can reach a height of 12 to 15 metres but typically does not reach 10 metres. The tree has glossy foliage and produces seed pods.



Callistemon 'Kings Park Special' (Bottlebrush)

An evergreen bushy tree reaching 3 to 5 metres, produces large amounts of vivid red flowers in spring. It is a good bird-attracting species.

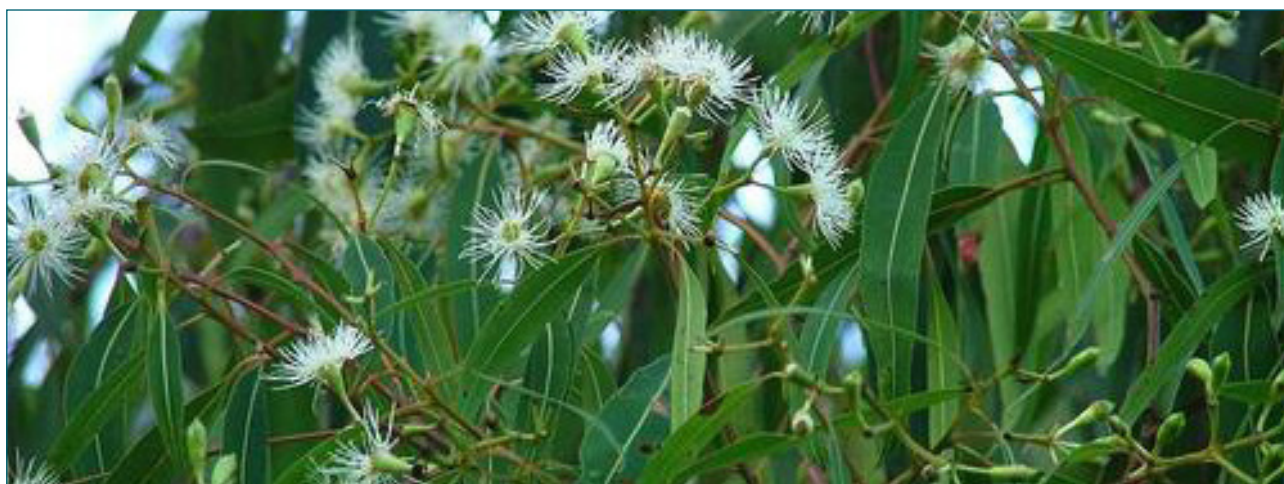


***Callistemon phoeniceus* (Lesser bottlebrush)**

A native tree with outstanding red or pink flowers and narrow greyish-green leaves. Frost and drought tolerant.

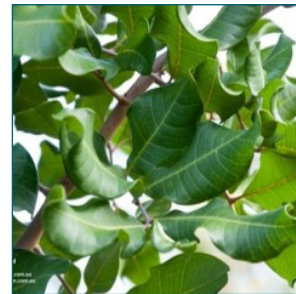
***Corymbia exima* (Yellow Bloodwood)**

Fast growing tree reaching about 10 metres, thick blue green leaves, yellowy brown rough bark. Flowers are white to cream and appear in spring.



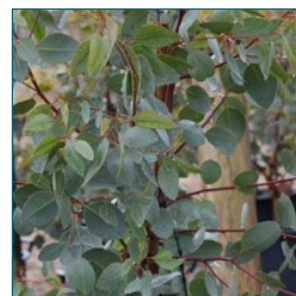
Cupanopsis anacardioides (Tuckeroo)

An evergreen native with glossy green foliage with a typical height of 8 to 12 metres. The roots are non-invasive and establish quickly. Cream flowers appear during autumn followed by bright orange fruit in spring.



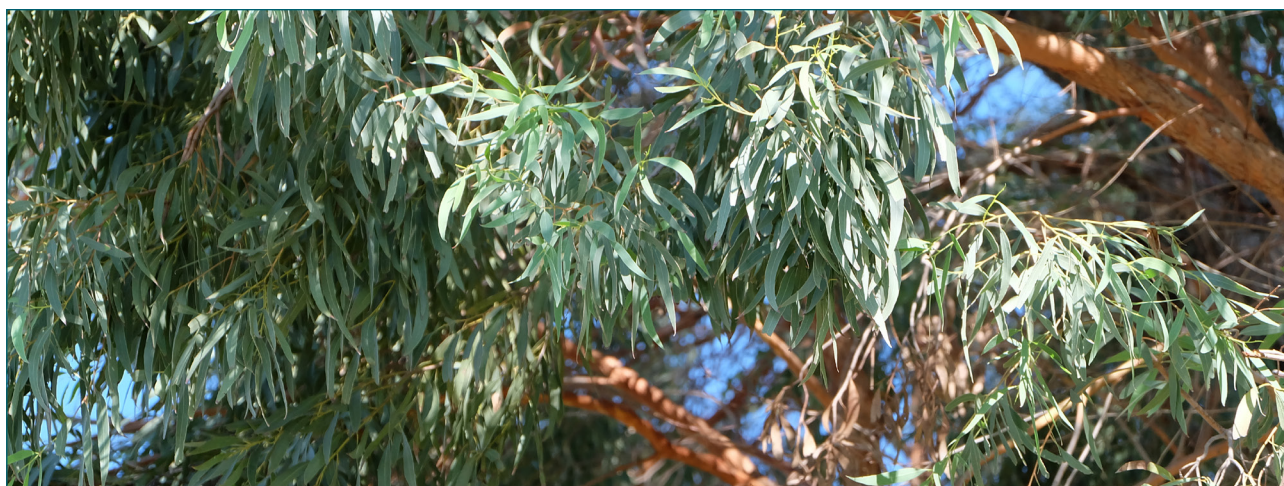
Eucalyptus decipiens (Redheart Moit)

Small eucalyptus from the Esperance area of Western Australia between 6 to 10 metres. The heart shaped juvenile leaves of a dull blue green colour are significantly different from the glossy grey-green leaves of a mature plant. Produces thick covering of white to cream flowers in spring and early summer.



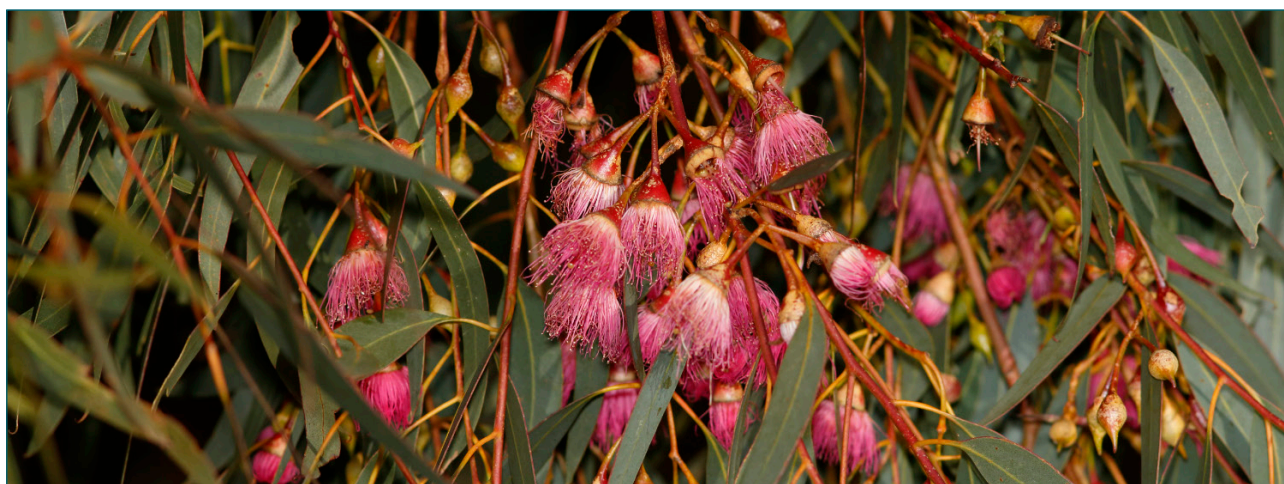
Eucalyptus nicholii (Narrow Leaved Black Peppermint)

An evergreen tree growing between 10 to 20 metres, it features weeping branches, with narrow light bluish green foliage and creamy white flowers in autumn.



Eucalyptus petiolaris (Pink Flowering Yellow Gum)

A medium-sized tree which reaches 15 to 25 metres in height. The bark is retained on the lower trunk but the upper trunk and branches are smooth-barked and cream to grey in colour. The adult leaves are lance-shaped to about 200mm long. The flowers are usually seen in autumn and winter and may be white, cream, pink or red.



Eucalyptus salmonophloia (Salmon gum)

A medium to large sized tree native to Western Australia and recognised for its bark and ecological significance. It has striking bark which changes colour seasonally.



Eucalyptus sideroxylon rosea (Pink Flowering Ironbark)

An upright, evergreen native tree that grows between 10 to 15 metres with a rounded crown. It features deeply furrowed bark ranging in colour from dark red to black and it flowers in spring with flowers ranging from red to pink.



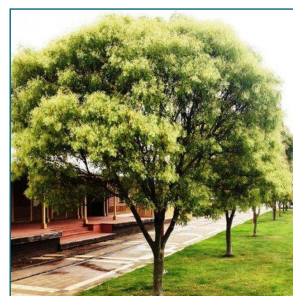
Eucalyptus torquata (Coral Gum)

A Western Australian native tree ranging in height from 3 to 7 metres, it has rough grey bark, dark grey-green foliage and coral red flowers.



Fraxinus griffithii (Evergreen Ash)

A small to medium sized tree featuring evergreen glossy leaves and clusters of white flowers in spring. It provides aesthetical appeal and ornamental value making it suitable for urban environment.



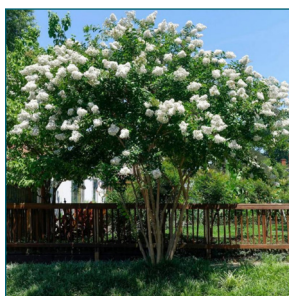
Jacaranda mimosifolia (Jacaranda)

A tree that grows to 10 to 15 metres, with a broad canopy and a striking display of purple flowers in spring/summer.



Lagerstroemia indica 'Natchez' (White Crepe Myrtle)

This small, deciduous tree between 4 to 6 metres is multi-stemmed and creates great interest throughout the year. In summer, clusters of spectacular white, crepe-paper like flowers are born. Following this, the dark green leaves add further interest as they transition into autumn, turning a rich bronze-red colour before falling.



Pistacia chinensis (Chinese Pistachio)

A deciduous tree that grows to 12 metres with rich green leaves turning to bright orange in autumn with yellow to red flowers in spring.

*Pyrus nivalis* (Snow Pear)

A deciduous tree with an upright growth habit. It has dense, rounded canopy with white flowers in spring and an outstanding red foliage in autumn.



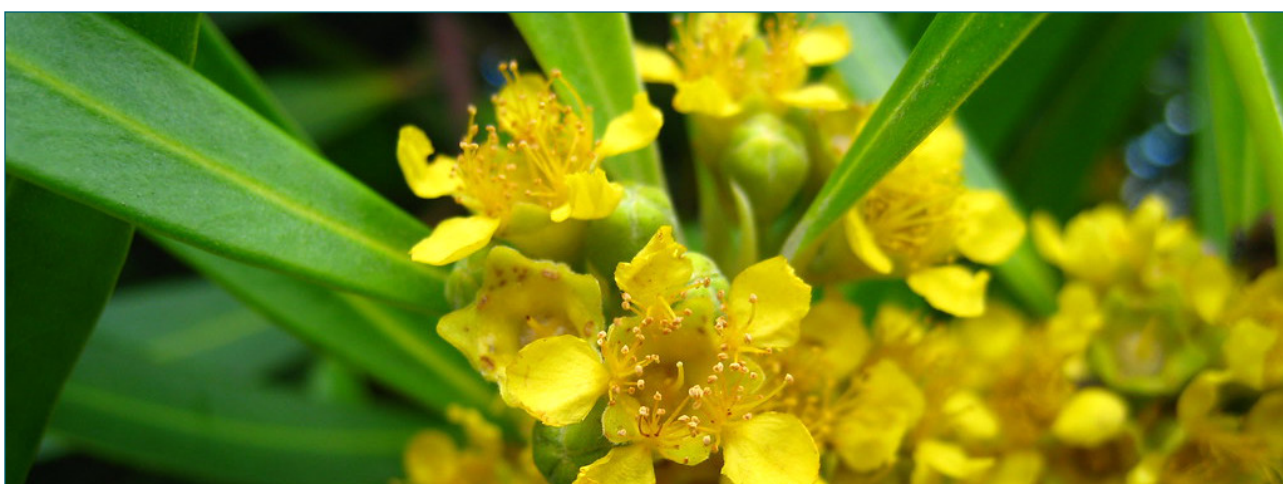
Pyrus ussuriensis (Manchurian Pear)

An erect deciduous tree that grows to about 15 metres with deep green glossy leaves changing to a deep crimson in autumn. The tree produces pink buds developing into white blossoms in spring.



Tristaniopsis laurina luscious (Water Gum)

A medium-sized tree with attractive glossy leaves and yellow flowers in summer. It is drought tolerant, and it is a good species for growing in a lawn.





City of
Joondalup

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This document is available in alternative formats upon request.