

Strathfield Council

The Value of Trees

There are many benefits to growing trees in urban areas including on your property. Trees are recognised as important community assets that are essential to the liveability of a city and can provide social, cultural, environmental and economic benefits. Planting trees on your property can provide shade, screening, shelter and attractive outdoor spaces and increase property values.

Global studies of trees in urban areas have found the benefit of trees in urban areas include:

- Social and health benefits:
 - Encourages outdoor activity
 - Reduces rates of stress and anxiety
 - Supports community connectiveness
 - Reduces rates of crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Creates a sense of place
- Environmental benefits:
 - Reduce urban heat
 - Improve water quality and reduce runoff
 - Enhance biodiversity
 - Absorb carbon dioxide
 - Improve air quality
- Economic benefits:
 - Reduced energy costs
 - Increase property values
 - Encourage local investment
 - Reduce healthcare costs

Tree Selection and Establishment

When selecting trees for your property the following are useful considerations.

- Tree size: Selection of tree species should take into account the anticipated mature size of the tree. Consideration should be given to the size and layout of your property and the affect of the tree in terms of shade, amenity to your property and impact on neighbours.
- Tree location: Take into consideration the orientation (North, South, East, West) of your property, location of buildings, driveways, paths and services such as pipes and electrical wires. Also take in to account overshadowing, privacy and the effect on your neighbour's property.
- Property Conditions: Consider the soil in your area (much of Strathfield has clay soils), whether the area will be damp or dry due to drainage patterns, exposure to wind and exposure to hot sun or shaded conditions.
- Tree purpose: Are you planting the tree to provide shade, a visual feature, to attract wildlife or dry-up a damp area?

- Tree care: Newly planted trees require care to establish. Ensure regular watering, maintain a clear mulched zone around tree base and protect the tree from damage such as from mowers and whipper-snippers.

How to plant a tree

- Try to plant on days that are not too hot or heavy rain. Planting in Autumn to Winter is considered optimal as the soil is still warm and the trees have a chance to establish before the heat of Summer.
- Thoroughly water the tree before removing it from its pot
- Dig a hole to a depth that the base of the rootball sits on the base of the hole and the top of the root ball is level with surrounding soil.
- Gently remove the tree from its pot and place in hole. Backfill soil around the tree lightly compacting the soil and ensuring soil level is not raised around the tree.
- Place 75mm depth of preferably organic mulch around the tree to regulate soil temperature, retain soil moisture and suppress weeds. **Ensure mulch is kept clear of the tree stem to avoid stem rot.**
- It is preferably not to stake trees so that they grow stronger however, if exposure to strong winds or potential impacts is anticipated then position 3 stakes around the tree and fix soft ties such as hessian about one third up stem height.

Suggested Species List:

Evergreen Trees (for medium to large sites)

Botanical Name	Common Name	Mature Height (Approx.)	Native/ Locally Indigenous/ Exotic
<i>Angophora floribunda</i>	Rough Barked Apple	15-20 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Brachychiton discolor</i>	Lacebark	15 metres	Native
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Tuckeroo	10 metres	Native
<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>	Red Iron Bark	15 metres	Native
<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i>	Forest Red Gum	20-30 metres	Native
<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i>	Grey Iron Bark	20-30 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Flindersia australis</i>	Crows Ash	15 metres	Native
<i>Glochidion ferdinandi</i>	Cheese Tree	10 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Hibiscus tilaceous</i>	Coast Cottonwood	8 metres	Native
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	15 metres	Native
<i>Quercus ilex</i>	Holly Oak	10 metres	Exotic

<i>Syncarpia glomulifera</i>	Turpentine	15-20 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Waterhousea floribunda</i>	Weeping Lilly Pilly	10-15 metres	Native

Evergreen Trees (for smaller sites)

<i>Acacia implexa</i>	Two Veined Hickory	8 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Alectryon tomentosum</i>	Hairy Birds Eye	8 metres	Native
<i>Alloxylon flammeum</i>	Tree Waratah	8 metres	Native
<i>Backhousia citriodora</i>	Lemon Myrtle	8 metres	Native
<i>Backhousia myrtifolia</i>	Cinnamon Myrtle	10 metres	Native
<i>Banksia integrifolia</i>	Coast Banksia	10 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Buckinghamia celsissima</i>	ivory curl	8 metres	Native
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Bottlebrush	8 metres	Native
<i>Elaeocarpus eumundi</i>	Quandong	8 metres	Native
<i>Elaeocarpus reticulatus</i>	Blueberry Ash	8-10 metres	Native
<i>Harpullia pendula</i>	Tulipwood	8 metres	Native
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native frangipani	8 metres	Native
<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	Black Tea Tree	8 metres	Native
<i>Melaleuca decora</i>	White Honey Myrtle	8 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Melaleuca linarifolia</i>	Snow in Summer	8 metres	Native
<i>Melaleuca styphellioides</i>	Prickly Paperbark	8 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Stenocarpus sinuatus</i>	Firewheel Tree	10 metres	Native
<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Brush Cherry	10 metres	Locally Indigenous
<i>Tristaniopsis laurina</i>	Water Gum	8 metres	Native
<i>Xanthostemon chrysanthus</i>	Golden Penda	8 metres	Native

Deciduous Trees (for medium to large sites)

<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Green Ash	10-15 metres	Exotic
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	Maidenhair Tree	10-15 metres	Exotic
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	Honey Locust	10 metres	Exotic

<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>	Golden Rain Tree	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Libidibia ferrea</i> (syn, <i>Caesalpineia ferrea</i>)	Leopard Tree	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>	Tulip Tree	10-15 metres	Exotic
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	White Cedar	10 metres	Native
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	Tupelo	10-15 metres	Exotic
<i>Populus simonii</i>	Chinese Poplar	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'	Ornamental Pear	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese Elm	10 metres	Exotic
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese Elm	10-15 metres	Exotic

Deciduous Trees (for smaller sites)

<i>Acer buergerianum</i>	Trident maple	6 metres	Exotic
<i>Acer palmatum</i> 'Sango Kaku'	Japanese Maple	6 metres	Exotic
<i>Lagerstroemia</i> 'Biloxi'	Crepe Myrtle	7 metres	Exotic
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese Pistachio	8 metres	Exotic
<i>Pyrus</i> 'Southworth Dancer'	Ornamental Pear	6 metres	Exotic