

Frequently asked questions

Who is responsible for pruning street trees?

Council prunes street trees that may pose a danger to people or property. Low-hanging branches could cause injury to pedestrians or cyclists and may need to be removed.

Can I trim a damaged tree on the footpath?

Please report damage to trees on Council land for assessment and management. Do not remove, prune or interfere with trees on Council land.

I'm worried a tree will fall in a storm. Can it be removed?

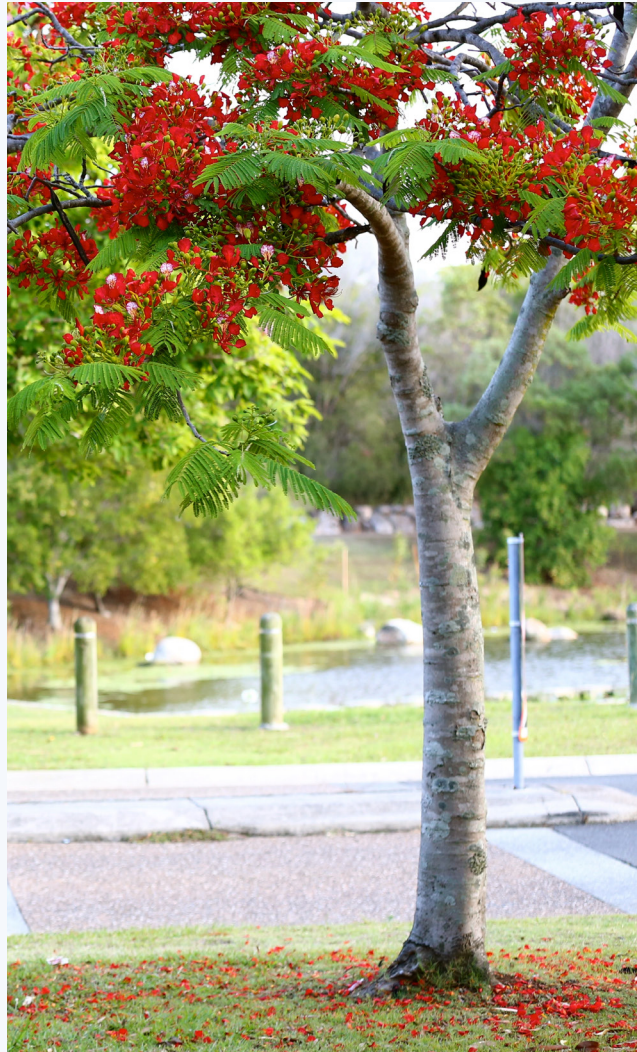
Healthy, well-maintained trees can help dissipate wind and provide protection during a storm. If a tree is a risk to safety or property and cannot be practically managed, it may be assessed for removal.

A tree in front of my property is blocking the view. Can I remove it?

No. You are not allowed to remove, prune or 'top' a Council-owned tree. Penalties may apply.

I'm putting in a driveway and there's a tree in the way. What do I do?

Contact Council to request a driveway crossover application if your tree removal request is for the purpose of constructing a driveway. A Council officer will inspect the tree and proximity to the proposed driveway. If the application is approved, you may need to pay for the tree removal.



Find out more about the management of trees on Council-owned and controlled land at www.redland.qld.gov.au/counciltrees

If you are concerned about the health and safety of a street tree, contact Council:

 **07 3829 8999**

 redland.qld.gov.au

Street trees

A guide for residents



Your guide to:

- caring for street trees
- requesting a new street tree
- reporting a problem
- finding out more about street trees.

Redland City Council plants and maintains street and park trees on Redlands Coast to support our naturally wonderful environment and contribute to the unique leafy character of our city.

Why trees are important

Trees bring character and beauty to our streets, shade our parks and provide important nesting and protective hollows for native wildlife. Council encourages the community to treasure and nurture our local trees.

Our trees help to:

- shape the natural beauty and colour that is Redlands Coast
- provide and protect habitat for plants and animals
- shade public spaces and buildings to create cooler, greener places
- add value to our cultural, historical and recreational places
- create wildlife corridors for koalas and other wildlife
- protect our waterways by preventing soil erosion and reducing stormwater runoff
- improve air quality
- reduce traffic noise
- improve land values.

Street tree planting

You can ask Council to plant a tree on the footpath in front of your property. Our helpful and expert team will assess the site for suitability.

Council encourages residents to help look after street trees, particularly when newly planted. Mulching around the base of a tree with fresh material like grass clippings or fresh woodchips is not recommended. Take care when mowing or weeding at the base of a tree. Damage to the bark or the roots can harm the tree or impact its future growth.

Residents should not plant trees on road verges or other Council land without an approved landscape permit. Contact Council on (07) 3829 8999 if you wish to apply for a permit.

Types of street trees

When planting street trees, Council selects the best suited trees for the location. We have a preferred list of trees that grow well here on Redlands Coast and are suitable under powerlines or near footpaths.

Who looks after street trees?

Council has a specialist and responsive team to manage trees on Council-owned or controlled land, including street trees. Street trees need to be maintained to ensure safety clearances for cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles, and for the health of the tree itself. Sometimes Council officers will install root barriers to prevent tree roots from damaging pipes, footpaths or other nearby infrastructure.

Living with trees

Naturally, trees will drop leaves, attract birds and may even fall or drop branches during severe weather events. Council does not prune, 'top' or remove trees due to leaf or fruit drop. Council will not remove a street or foreshore tree for 'blocking my view'.

Residents are not permitted to prune or remove street trees. Incorrect pruning can damage or weaken a tree and lead to further problems.

If you are concerned about the health of a street tree, damage to a tree or have a safety concern, contact Council on (07) 3829 8999.

