

Tree Pruning Guidelines



How to do pruning right

A tree is defined as being 4 metres or more in height, or with a spread of more than 3 metres, or with a trunk diameter of more than 75mm measured 1 metre above the ground level. Other definitions apply if the tree is located on the Fairfield LEP Riparian Land and Waterways Map.

To prune a tree on private property, you will need a Tree Work Permit from Council.

Council will consider a Tree Work Permit application to:

- Remove dead branches
- Prune trees that are a safety hazard.

Council will not consider an application to prune a tree to improve views.

Tree Work Permit Approvals to prune are subject to conditions.

The types of pruning

Cleaning out

The removal of any diseased, damaged or dead branches that could cause a problem.

Lifting

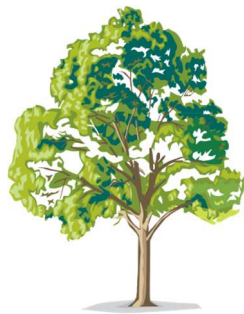
The removal of branches from the bottom of the crown of the crown of a tree to provide clearance for pedestrians, vehicles or improve lines of sight.

Crown thinning

The selective removal of branches to increase light penetration and air movement throughout the crown without any reduction of height.



Natural shape



Crown thinning or lifting

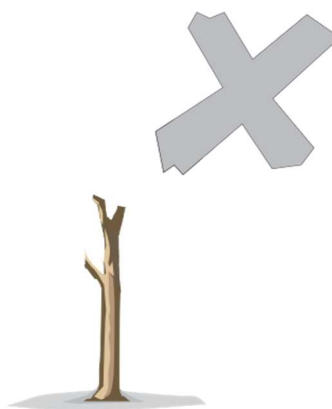
Types of crown reduction

Thinning out

The reduction in height and spread while keeping the plants natural shape.

Lopping

Cutting main branches back to the stubs is not recommended because it makes trees vulnerable to infectious diseases, insect attack and other problems. Lopping can result in decayed and partially hazardous trees with a reduced life span.



The time to prune

Best time to prune

Generally, the best time of the year to do this is when plants are dormant, which is in the cooler months of the year or after the plant has flowered.

Tree Work Permit Conditions

- All approved pruning must be protect the health of the tree by using correct pruning techniques
- All tree removal and pruning work must keep nearby people and property safe.
- All approved tree pruning work must be done to Australian Standard AS4373-2007 - Pruning of Amenity Trees.

Questions?

Call Fairfield City Council on 9725 0222.