



CITY OF  
Port Adelaide Enfield

# Significant and Regulated Trees Assistance Scheme

# Significant and Regulated Trees Assistance Scheme



The aim of our Significant and Regulated Trees Assistance Scheme is to **encourage the retention and protection of large trees** in our neighbourhoods by **helping landowners with tree maintenance costs** on their properties.

The City of PAE recognises the many benefits that mature trees bring to our community in terms of scenic amenity, habitat provision, streetscape appeal, shading and cooling effects.

With this in mind, we are encouraging eligible individuals and businesses to apply for grants to help maintain significant and regulated trees on their properties

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## What are significant trees and regulated trees?

Significant and regulated trees are defined in [state law](#) as having large trunks (when measured 1 metre above ground level):

Generally, **significant trees** have measurements of:

- A trunk with a circumference of 3 metres or more, or
- Multiple trunks, with a combined circumference of 3 metres or more, and an average circumference of 625 millimetres or more

Generally, **regulated trees** have measurements of:

- A trunk with a circumference of 2 metres or more, or
- Multiple trunks, with a combined circumference of 2 metres or more, and an average circumference of 625 millimetres or more





## How much can you apply for?

People can apply for a reimbursement of up to \$1,000 for tree maintenance activities on their private property. Eligible maintenance activities include:

- **Pruning of the tree crown or branches** (to remove dead or diseased wood, or branches at risk of structural failure)
- **Pest treatments** (to manage damage from insects, beetles, or borers)

Please note that a development approval may be required for certain types of tree maintenance works. Maintenance does not always need approval, but it is an offence to undertake works that meet the legal definition of 'development'.

Before starting an application, applicants are encouraged to discuss their proposal with Council officers on ☎ **8405 6054** or ✉ [tree.grants@cityofpae.sa.gov.au](mailto:tree.grants@cityofpae.sa.gov.au)

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## Who can get a Significant and Regulated Tree Reimbursement?

Any non-government landowner in the City of PAE (whether an individual or a business) can apply. A Strata Corporation, Body Corporate or similar entity is also eligible to apply for works on common land.

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## How will my application be assessed?

Completed applications will be forwarded to a Council officer for assessment. The proposal will be checked against the Council's policy for significant and regulated trees. The decision of awarding grants will be made by staff with appropriate delegations.

Should the application be accepted, Council will advise the applicant of its in-principle agreement for the proposed works.

At that point, the applicant can engage a suitably qualified and insured arborist/tree company to do the works. Once the works are completed, the applicant will need to pay the company in full, and provide a copy of the paid invoice to Council.

The completed works will then be checked by Council against the invoice. If the works are deemed appropriate, Council will seek the bank details of the applicant, and pay a reimbursement of up to \$1,000 into the applicant's account. At that point, the process is complete.

## Timeframes

The timing depends upon the applicant providing all required details, the works involved, the availability of arborists/tree companies, the timing of any inspections, and Council's operational priorities.

Once a completed application is received, Council endeavours to provide an in-principle response to the proposal within 2 – 4 weeks.

If Council gives in-principle agreement, it is the landowner's responsibility to appoint an arborist/tree company and pay for the works. Once the company's works are done, the landowner will inform Council and forward a copy of a paid invoice. Council aims to provide a final decision on the reimbursement within 2 – 4 weeks of receiving all required information from the landowner.

If the final works are accepted by Council, it is envisaged that a reimbursement will be made within 30 days.

Starting from the time of the initial application to the final reimbursement, the entire process may take a few months.



## What else do you need to know?

Council may take photos of the completed works, and this is done to increase public awareness of the scheme and help promote its benefits to the community.

Applicants will need to abide by the Terms and Conditions listed on the application page.



## Reimbursements will not be made for:

- Applications which are incomplete, or not made through the Council's SmartyGrants platform
- Works deemed by Council to be inappropriate or excessive
- Works undertaken by persons other than qualified arborists/tree companies
- Applicants who are in arrears on rates, or have any outstanding monies owed to the City of Port Adelaide Enfield (e.g. unpaid fines)
- Arborists or contractors who are not:
  - adequately insured to undertake the nominated works
  - suitably qualified
  - listed as an entity on the Commonwealth Government's ABN
- Works performed on any of the following:
  - A tree that is not significant or regulated according to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016
  - A tree species declared under Part 9 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019
  - A palm tree



## How to apply

We provide an online application tool for you to prepare and submit your application:

📄 [cityofpae.smartygrants.com.au/treesgrants](https://cityofpae.smartygrants.com.au/treesgrants)

Once an account is created, the application form can be filled out. When an application is completed, it will be reviewed by Council staff, and applicants will be kept informed of progress via email.

For questions on the grants scheme (or if development approval is required beforehand), please get in touch: ☎ 8405 6054 ✉ [tree.grants@cityofpae.sa.gov.au](mailto:tree.grants@cityofpae.sa.gov.au)