

Wollongong City Council Development Control Plan 2009 prohibits, without the prior written consent of Council, the ringbarking, cutting down, topping, lopping, removing, injuring or wilful destruction of any tree or vegetation to which the Control Plan applies. All reported breaches of the Control Plan are investigated by Council.

What does the Wollongong City Council Tree Management Control Plan apply to?

The Tree Management Control Plan applies to any tree that:

- is 3 metres or more in height;
- has a diameter of 200mm or more at a height of 1 metre from the ground;
- has a branch spread of 3 metres or more; or
- is dead or is dying.

The Control Plan also applies to pruning of major structural or anchor roots.

Breaches of the Tree Management Control Plan

Any person found to have breached or to have caused or permitted a breach of the Wollongong City Council Tree Management Control Plan is guilty of an offence under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*.

Breaches may result in Council either issuing a warning letter, a Penalty or the commencement of legal action in either the Local Court or the Land and Environment Court. The maximum penalty that may be imposed by a Court is \$1.1million.

Penalty Notices

'On the spot' penalties exist for breaches of the Tree Management Control Plan under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979*, as follows:

- \$1,500 (for each offence) for individuals.
- \$3,000 (for each offence) for corporations.

Further Information on the Tree Management Control Plan

Further information on Wollongong City Council's Tree Management Control Plan can be obtained through Council's Customer Service Centre on **4227 7111** or via Council's website at:

www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/environment/treemanagement.asp

Disclaimers

This Fact Sheet was believed to be correct at the date of its approval.

This Fact Sheet is for general information purposes only, and should not be solely relied upon.