

CITY OF PLAYFORD TREE PROTECTION

INFORMATION FOR DEVELOPERS AND CONTRACTORS

Playford is committed to the proactive management of our trees within the city. Our community values green spaces and the way our city looks and wants this to continue to improve. City appearance contributes greatly to community wellbeing and livability.

Protecting Playford's trees is crucial to retaining not only our aesthetic streetscape and environment, but maintaining the safety of our community. During all stages of development and construction, impact to tree health needs to be avoided or minimised to reduce the intensity or extent of damage.

This policy delivers guidance and aids decision making in relation to all trees under the care, control and management of Playford and acts as best practice guidance for developers and contractors.

All construction and development works near public trees must abide by the protection and retention requirements outlined in this document.

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TREE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

Considerations and care must be taken when any activity occurs within the Tree Protection Zones and Structural Root Zones (TPZ and SRZ) perusal to the Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites, Australian Standard AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees and Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016.

TPZ will ensure the successful protection and retention of our Trees.

Damage to tree/s can be avoided and reviewing plans should consider the following:

- Adjusting/ modifying plans to reduce the intensity or extent of damage
- Minimum distance for construction as advised by Council Arborist
- No mechanical excavation within TPZ
- Permeable material within TPZ

To ensure that Playford's public trees are fully protected at all times, the following requirements must be complied with:

1. During the conceptual plan or preliminary design stage, Council Arborists need to be involved and proposed works viewed for scoping, as soon as possible.
2. A Council Arborist's will then design a TPMP with instructions as to our requirements to protect our public trees.
3. Where possible, all construction/excavation or development projects will be avoided within a TPZ.
4. For the duration of any works, the project manager and procured contractor or supervisor will make sure the following steps are followed to assure all trees are protected to remain safe and healthy for our community.
5. A Council arborists is available for advice where necessary, and carry out ongoing inspections to ensure TPMP requirements
6. Any damage occurred to public trees, may result in Council taking action. Costs and expense incurred by Council may be recovered as per our fees and charges schedule.

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TREE PROTECTION ZONES

The Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) is the principle means of protecting trees on development sites. The TPZ is a combination of the root area and crown area requiring protection. It is an area isolated from construction disturbance, so that the tree remains viable.

In some instances, a TPZ will be marked out by a Council Arborist with dye mark, barrier mesh or mulch to protect certain trees. A Council Arborist may approve any modification to a TPZ.

Unless authorized by Council Arborists, activities generally excluded from a TPZ include but not limited to:

- Construction
- Demolition
- Development
- Soil compaction
- Loading areas
- Stockpile of materials
- Reinstatement of footpaths, driveways, curbing/gutters, roads.

Work required within a TPZ?

Where work is required within a TPZ it must be shown that no tree damaging activity will or has occurred as per AS 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.

STRUCTURAL ROOT ZONES

The Structural Root Zone is most important for the stability of the tree.

A SRZ is the radius around a tree trunk that must be protected from impact. The SRZ primarily relates to structure of the tree, opposed to tree health. Should larger roots within the SRZ be damaged it is highly likely the tree's structure will be compromised, risking tree failure. The TPZ should be adhered to.

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HOW TO CALCULATE THE TPZ?

Prior to commencement of a development or construction near a tree, a protection zone should be measured. The tree protection method outlined in AS 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites will be used for the allocation a protection zone.

The TPZ incorporates the Structural Root Zone (SRZ).

The radius of the TPZ is calculated by multiplying its Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) x 12

$$\text{TPZ} = \text{DBH} \times 12$$

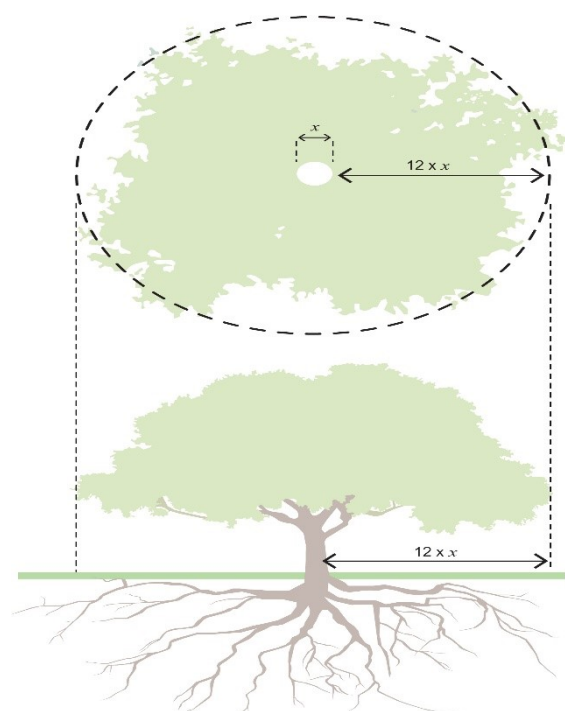
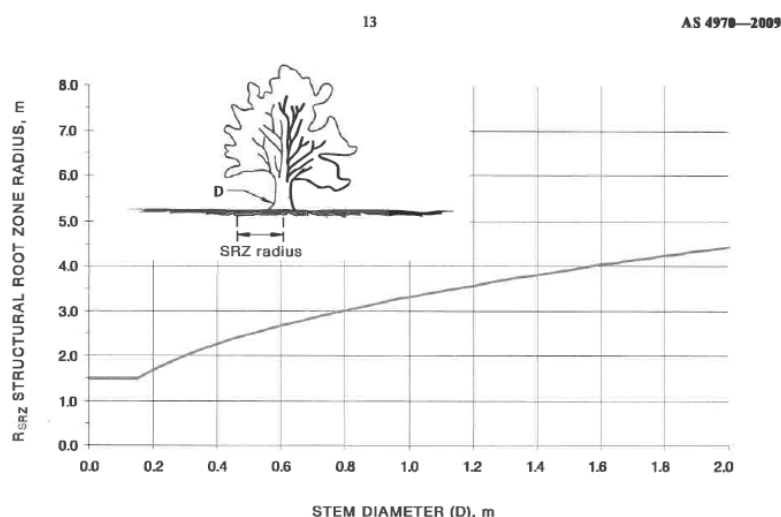
Where:

DBH = Trunk diameter measured at 1.4m above ground

Trunk Diameter (DBH)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)
10cm	1.2m
20cm	2.4m
40cm	4.8m
75cm	9m
100cm	12m

Table 1: Example Tree Protection Zone

Radius is measured from the center of the stem at ground level.



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TREE PROTECTION MANAGEMENT PLAN (TPMP)

A Tree Protection Management plan (TPMP) will be required when activities are performed within a TPZ, in accordance with *AS 4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites*.

- A TPMP may contain the following: Tree assessment
 - The general condition and overview of each tree (e.g. Species, Health, Structure, Useful Life Expectancy (ULE), Height, Width and DBH)
 - Prior defects, faults, damage
- Photograph of tree/s
- Advice and recommendations to protect the tree/s, and safety of our community.

EXCAVATION / CONSTRUCTION

The requirements to work within a TPZ with minimal damage to tree roots will be based on recommendations from a Council Arborist. Manual and non-destructive excavation such as; Hydro Vac and Manual hand digging, could potentially be requested and supervised by Council Arborist.

- Roots or branches must not be cut, severed or broken - no digging
- Ground levels must not be changed - no digging or soil level raising
- No soil compaction

STOCKPILE MATERIALS

The stockpile of material such as, but not limited to; paving sand, pavers and pallets will not be placed in the TPZ of trees.

There will be an agreed location with Council Arborists for the storage and stockpile of material.

PLANT AND MACHINERY

Plant and machinery will not drive or park within the TPZ, unless authorized by Council Arborist.

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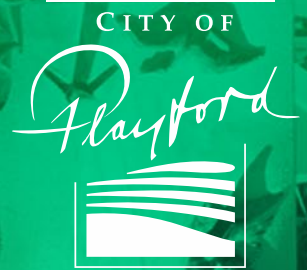
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PRUNING AND REMOVAL

- No public tree, roots or branches will be removed, or pruned, by anyone other than those authorised by Council Arborist
- Should any tree/s, roots or branches need to be pruned or removed, Council Arborist needs to be notified
- Pruning will be done in accordance with *AS 4373-2007 Pruning of Amenity Trees*.
- Where kerb failure is due to the presence of large tree roots, the contractor must engage an arborist (council or independent) to cleanly trim the offending root(s)."

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