

The Wollongong City Council Tree Management Order prohibits, without the prior written consent of Council, the ringbarking, cutting down, topping, lopping, removing, injuring or destruction of any tree to which the Order applies. All reported breaches of the Tree Management Order are investigated by Council.

What does the Wollongong City Council Tree Management Order apply to?

The Tree Management Order 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 Order also applies to pruning of major structural or anchor roots.

An application for removal of any tree where the trunk of the tree is located within 3 metres of an existing habitable building (on an applicant's property only) is subject to the submission to Council of a Self-Certification Notification Form and accompanying photographic evidence as specified on the Form.

Breaches of the Tree Management Order

Any person found to have breached or to have caused or permitted a breach of the Wollongong City Council Tree Management Order 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 Infringement Notice 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 Infringement Notices

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

- \$1500 (for each offence) for individuals
- \$3000 (for each offence) for corporations.

Further Information on the Tree Management Order

Further information on Wollongong City Council's Tree Management Order can be obtained through Council's Customer Service Centre on **4227 7111** or via Council's website at: www.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/community/tmo.asp.