

Significant Tree Register Assessment Criteria

Significant Tree Assessment Criteria:

VISUAL / AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE

Trees whose age, size, form, seasonal beauty and/or placement is such that they are not only magnificent examples of their species but are also a significant aesthetic component of the streetscape, park, garden or natural landscape in which they grow. This includes trees that:

- a) Are outstanding for their height, trunk circumference or canopy spread;
- b) Occur in a prominent location (such as civic spaces or reserves);
- c) Contribute significantly to the landscape in which they grow [including streetscapes, parks, gardens or natural landscapes];
- d) Form part of a significant avenue or group;
- e) Exhibit an unusual growth form or physical feature; or
- f) Are particularly old or vulnerable.

BOTANIC / SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE

Trees that could provide important and valuable propagating stock for scientific research, forestry or horticulture industries because their genetic characteristics differ from those typically associated with the species. Including trees that:

- a) Are of important genetic value which could provide valuable propagating stock. This could include unique specimens that are particularly resistant to disease or climatic extremes or have a particular growth form; or
- b) Are unique and have the capacity to act as an information resource that will contribute to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.

ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Trees that have outstanding value as habitat for indigenous wildlife, including providing breeding, foraging or roosting habitat, or forming a key part of a wildlife corridor including trees that:

- a) Are priority, rare, threatened or locally uncommon species or ecological community;
- b) Indigenous remnant trees that predate the urban development in its immediate proximity;
- c) Make a significant contribution to the integrity of an ecological community, including its role as a seed source or specialised habitat;
- d) Are a remnant specimen now reduced in range or abundance, which indicates the former extent of the species, particularly range limits; or
- e) Are a significant natural habitat element for rare, threatened, priority or locally uncommon or common native species.

Note: Advice from a suitably qualified Ecologist may be required in order to demonstrate the Ecological significant of a nominated tree.

HISTORICAL, COMMEMORATIVE, CULTURAL OR SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Trees that commemorate, are associated with or are reminders of, cultural practices, historic events or notable people including trees that:

- a) Are associated with public significance or important historical event;
- b) Are highly valued by the community or cultural group for reasons of strong religious, spiritual, cultural or other social associations, including trees associated with aboriginal heritage and culture;
- c) Are associated with a heritage listed place and representative of that same historic era; or
- d) Have local significance and are important to the local community and/or are recognised features of the immediate landscape.

Note: Advice from a suitably qualified heritage expert as well as local community/cultural groups may be required to demonstrate the Historical, Commemorative, Cultural or Social significant of a nominated tree

