

Advice from CA Landscape Architect regarding Tree Pruning

It has been noted that some Strata appear to have included street tree pruning within their garden maintenance programs. The pruning of street trees is the responsibility of the Community Association (CA) and should not be undertaken by Strata. Please advise all landscape contractors of this advice.

In addition, pruning of all trees greater than 4m high, or 500mm trunk girth, as noted below, requires Canada Bay Council approval. Advice from Council is that there is no longer any leniency or exemption for minor pruning of less than 20% of any tree over 4m high without Council permission.

The following [advice is from Canada Bay Council](#) Fact Sheet “Pruning or Removal of Trees” dated 24 May 2019.

Pruning and removal of trees in the City of Canada Bay is regulated by State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas) 2017 (the Vegetation SEPP) and the City of Canada Bay Development Control Plan (DCP).

A person must not ringbark, cut down, top, lop, remove, injure or wilfully destroy any tree or other vegetation to which the DCP applies if:

- a. The tree has a height of, or greater than, four (4) metres;*
- b. The tree has a trunk girth of, or greater than, 500mm at any point; or*
- c. The tree is a cycad or mangrove, irrespective of its dimensions without a permit granted by the Council.*

Some of the existing Strata mop top Robinias, Waterhousea and Crepe Myrtles that have been pruned may have a height less than 4m but may start to achieve a trunk girth (diameter measured with a soft tape) greater than 500mm.

Strata Managers are required to engage the CA Landscape Architect before applying to the CA for permission to prune trees and if approved by the CA, can then apply for Council approval.