

18/06/2015
C148**SCHEDULE 8 TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as ESO8.

SIGNIFICANT EXOTIC AND NATIVE TREES IN CASEY**1.0**18/06/2015
C148**Statement of environmental significance**

The City of Casey boasts many individual native and exotic trees and groups of trees with special significance. Collectively, these trees add to the diversity of vegetation in the municipality and have ecological importance, while on an individual level they may contribute to the character of a local area, or have particular cultural values. The *City of Casey Significant Tree Strategy, incorporating the Casey Significant Tree Register* identifies those exotic and native trees considered to be of most significance in the municipality. Their selection is attributed to one or more factors, including landscape context, aesthetic value, rarity, localised distribution, age, outstanding size or species example, curious growth form or cultural and heritage linkages.

Casey has lost many of its significant trees over the years as a result of urban development, either through direct vegetation removal or poor care and maintenance practices. This has been further exacerbated through limited controls protecting such vegetation. The application of planning controls to safeguard the future of Casey's significant exotic and native trees provides a positive step that will benefit the environment and the community.

2.018/06/2015
C148**Environmental objective to be achieved**

- To protect and conserve significant exotic and native trees for their intrinsic, environmental, ecological, scientific, landscape and cultural heritage values.
- To ensure that any use or development of land within the Tree Protection Zone of a significant tree, as identified in the *City of Casey Significant Tree Register*, does not compromise its long-term conservation.

3.018/06/2015
C148**Permit requirement**

Before deciding on a planning application, the responsible authority may require the applicant to provide a report from a suitably qualified arborist, ecologist, or botanist, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority, on the reason and need for the proposed works, options for alternative treatments and any remedial or restorative action proposed.

All pruning and works must be carried out in accordance with the *Australian Standard - Pruning of Amenity Trees*, AS4373 (2007) by a suitably qualified arborist, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

All works must be carried out in accordance with the *Australian Standard - Protection of trees on development sites*, AS 4970 (2009), to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.

A permit is required for the construction of a building or the construction or carrying out of works listed in Clause 62.02-2 within the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the *Casey Significant Tree Register*.

A permit is not required:

- To remove, destroy, or lop any vegetation which is not listed in the *City of Casey Significant Tree Register*.
- To construct a building or construct or carry out works outside the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the *City of Casey Significant Tree Register*. The Tree Protection Zone is calculated by using the diameter at breast height (DBH), which is the diameter of the tree at 1.4 metres above ground level, multiplied by 12 to give a measurable distance from the tree.

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- To construct a fence outside of the Tree Protection Zone of any significant tree identified in the *City of Casey Significant Tree Register*.
- To undertake maintenance of a significant tree(s) on public land by the public land manager, including dead wooding and broken limb removal, to maintain the integrity of the tree or reduce the risk of personal injury or damage to property.
- To prune limbs less than 75mm in diameter (measured at the pruning point) of any significant tree listed in the *Casey Significant Tree Register* for:
 - maintaining access to existing roads, driveways and footpaths;
 - clearing within two metres of an existing permanent structure;
 - reducing overhang to neighbouring properties.

Pruning works must be undertaken in accordance with the Australian Standard-AS4373 2007, (Pruning of Amenity Trees).

For construction and maintenance works for municipal purposes within the Tree Protection Zone, subject to such works being carried out in accordance with a Tree Management Plan approved by a suitably qualified arborist.

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Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application for removal, destruction or lopping of vegetation, the responsible authority must consider as appropriate:

- The impact of the proposal on the intrinsic, environmental, ecological, landscape or cultural heritage significance of the identified significant tree.
- The impact of the proposal on the health, appearance and stability of the identified significant tree.
- The habitat value for native fauna of any identified significant tree.
- Any recommendations or management guidelines relating to the relevant identified significant tree(s) contained in the *City of Casey Significant Trees Strategy*, incorporating the *Casey Significant Tree Register* and the *Register of Significant Trees in Victoria*, National Trust of Australia (Victoria).
- The recommendations of any report provided by a suitably qualified arborist, ecologist or botanist relating to the relevant identified significant tree(s).
- Whether any proposed pruning of a significant tree(s) is in accordance with the *Australian Standard – Pruning of Amenity Trees*, AS4373.
- Whether the requirements of Australian Standard – Protection of Trees on Development Sites, AS4970 are met.
- Whether all alternative options to any proposed tree removal are considered, including the redesign or relocation of buildings.
- Whether the planting of appropriate replacement tree(s) or vegetation is warranted, consistent with the principles of *Permitted Clearing of Native Vegetation – Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines*.
- Whether a long-term maintenance program is required for any identified significant tree impacted by building works.

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Reference documents

Australian Standard – Protection of Trees on Development Sites, AS 4970 (2009)

Australian Standard – Pruning of Amenity Trees, AS 4373 (2007)

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City of Casey Significant Tree Strategy, City of Casey (2014)

Permitted Clearing of Native Vegetation – Biodiversity Assessment Guidelines, Department of Environment and Primary Industries (2013)

Register of Significant Trees in Victoria, National Trust of Australia (Victoria)