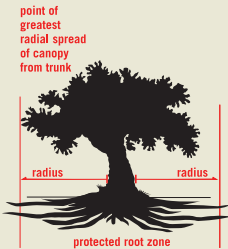


Working near trees and bush

Works in the rootzone (see below) can cause severe damage to the root system through excavation, and the weight of parked vehicles and stored materials. The rootzone should be fenced off when any works are occurring near the tree. For advice of acceptable fencing standards, please contact an Environmental Services Arborist on 486 8600.



Roots Zone –
Area of ground around a tree trunk created by taking a radius equal to the greatest radial spread of the tree, measured from the trunk and rotating that radius in a full circle around the trunk.

Working without resource consent where one is needed

The District Plan protects vegetation, and anyone who breaches a rule in the Plan without resource consent is liable for the significant penalties under the Resource Management Act 1991, which include possible fines and imprisonment.

How do I find out what species of tree I have and if it is protected?

To identify the species of a tree and find out if it's native or exotic, ask at your local garden centre, contact a professional arborist or ring the Environmental Services Helpdesk. This brochure can help you determine whether or not the tree is protected, or you can contact us. If the work you wish to do requires resource consent, then the helpdesk will be able to advise you of where to collect the relevant forms.



What will resource consent cost?

Resource consents are generally processed free of charge, although a report is sometimes required from a professional arborist. For publicly notified applications however, a proportion of the processing costs incurred by Council may be charged for. If resource consents are granted, they will have conditions such as ones which require that you replant trees on your property, enter into a bond agreement or establish a formal covenant.

Note

The tree and bush protection rules in this leaflet should be used as a guide only. For further information on any of the topics on this brochure, please contact our Environmental Services helpdesk on 486 8600.

Cover image from a painting by Mary Taylor.

North Shore City Council

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Trees and Bush Protection



Your role in protecting trees and bush in North Shore City



09-NSC-0052

Paper

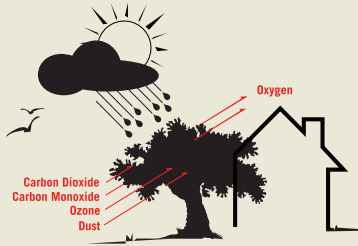
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www.northshorecity.govt.nz

What trees do

- Provide a home and food for birds, insects and other wildlife
- Add nutrients to soil and prevent erosion
- Reduce global warming by absorbing harmful greenhouse gases and releasing oxygen for us to breathe
- Offer shade and shelter from the sun, wind and rain
- Help reduce stormwater runoff
- Improve and maintain air quality
- Add character to our homes, cities and environment.



Trees and bush contribute to our quality of life and provide a variety of benefits to all living things. Our policies and rules are aimed at protecting significant trees and bush from damage and needless removal.

Why do we need rules and policies?

Trees and bush play an important role in and for our community, and we need to continue to protect and preserve them. Our tree and bush protection rules follow many years of deciding on the best way in which to protect these invaluable assets. Trees add to the character of our growing city and support our city's biodiversity. The rules will ensure that trees are protected now and in the future.

Which trees and bush are protected and where?

Whether your tree or bush is protected depends on the zoning of your property and any special provisions or rules in our District Plan which apply to your property. You can contact our Environmental Services helpdesk on 486 8600 for more information or visit our website www.northshorecity.govt.nz



TABLE A

Category/Zone	Protection
Business Zones	Special protection provisions in relation to Bute Road Bush, Landscape Amenity Yards and Table B.
Residential 1, 2C, 3-7, Residential Expansion Zone and Albany and Greenhithe Structure Plan Area B, C and D, and Long Bay Structure Plan	Native trees over 8m in height or 800mm in girth. Exotic trees over 10m high or 1m in girth and any of the following species over 15m high or 1.5m in girth (Casuarina/She-oak, Gum, Willow, Macrocarpa, Poplar, Norfolk Pine, Pine and Wattle).
Residential 2A, 2A1, 2B, Residential Expansion Zone, Rural 1	All continuous, naturally occurring native vegetation.
Rural 2-3, Structure Plan Area A	All native vegetation (and all forestry activities in Rural 2-3).
Residential 2B	All native trees over 6m in height or 600mm in girth and all exotic trees over 8m in height or 800mm in girth.
All Rural and Urban Expansion Zones	Any native ground cover or vegetation, and ALL vegetation (native and exotic) within 20m of the centre line of any stream.
Structure Plan Area A, B, C, D & E	Areas of continuous naturally occurring native vegetation in excess of 100m ² .
Special Purpose Zones	Special provisions apply in these zones and it is necessary that you contact Council before undertaking works in these areas.
Long Bay Structure Plan Zone	All native vegetation and all exotics in excess of 10m in height and 1000mm in girth in any Landscape Protection Area and any Stormwater Management Zone.

More than one category may apply.

TABLE B

Special conditions apply to the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All trees on the Schedule of Notable Trees in Appendix 8C of the North Shore City District Plan • Vegetation in close proximity to a watercourse • All native vegetation within the Foreshore Yard • All vegetation within the Lake Side Yard (except weeds and lawn) • Pohutukawa over 3m in height in the Coastal Conservation Area and in the Lake Pupuke Site of Geological Significance 3 • All vegetation on roads and reserves • Any vegetation protected by a covenant or a condition of consent.

More than one category may apply.

Trimming

Changes to the Resource Management Act 1991 now mean that trees in an 'urban environment' can be trimmed without consent, unless they are specifically identified in the District Plan. Trimming is defined as minor pruning of the canopy of a tree (i.e. excluding the roots). Such works shall be limited to no more than 20% of live growth removal in any one year and must be in accordance with currently accepted arboricultural practice, ensuring that the natural form and branch habit of the tree species is retained.

In accordance with section 76 (4B) of the Resource Management Act 1991 'urban environment' means an allotment no greater than 4000m²; (a) that is connected to a reticulated water supply system and a reticulated sewerage system; and (b) on which is a building used for industrial or commercial purposes or a dwelling house.

Measuring your trees height and girth

A tree may be protected based on either height **or** girth; it does not need to fulfil both criteria to meet protection status. Height may be measured visually or with the aid of a measuring pole. To measure the girth of a tree you will need a measuring tape. Girth is measured by wrapping the tape around the trunk at 1.4 metres from the ground (on the uphill side of a tree if it is on a slope). For trees with multiple stems, add up the girth of every stem over 250mm in circumference for the cumulative girth.