Do you have a favourite tree or group of trees in Waverley? Let us know!

Waverley Council’s Significant Tree Register lists outstanding or significant trees in the local area. The register is currently under review.

The aim of the review is to:
- identify, recognise and protect significant trees located in the Waverley local government area
- encourage residents to nominate trees to be assessed for inclusion on the register
- acknowledge the register in a new local environment plan and tree development control plan for greater protection of trees
- map significant trees on Waverley Council’s online mapping service so residents and Council staff are aware of their location.

We’d like to hear from members of the community about a tree or group of trees they would like us to consider for inclusion on the register. Trees can be on private or public land, native or exotic.

A qualified, independent arborist will inspect and assess all trees that meet statewide selection criteria.

Categories for significance include:
- Cultural/social/commemorative
- Botanic/scientific
- Ecological and visual/aesthetic.

You can find out more about these categories on the nomination form (see over page for details).

IS THE TREE ALREADY ON THE REGISTER?
Before nominating a tree, please check it is not already on the Significant Tree Register.

View the register online at www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees_plants_and_bushcare/significant_trees or call us on 9386 7999.
HOW TO NOMINATE A TREE

If your tree is not already listed, please get a nomination form from one of these locations...

Customer Service Centre
55 Spring Street, Bondi Junction

Waverley Library
32-48 Denison Street, Bondi Junction

Council Chambers
Cnr Paul Street and Bondi Road
Bondi Junction

Online
www.waverley.nsw.gov.au/environment/trees_plants_and_bushcare/significant_trees

On the nomination form, please give us as much information as possible about the tree/s you are nominating. We need an accurate description of the tree, its location and the reasons you think it is important.

Please return your completed form by close of business on Friday 22 July 2011:

BY EMAIL
millhilla@waverley.nsw.gov.au

BY POST
General Manager, Waverley Council
PO Box 9, Bondi Junction NSW 1355

IN PERSON
Customer Service Centre
55 Spring Street, Bondi Junction

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER A TREE IS NOMINATED?

Once we receive a nomination we will notify the tree owner, adjoining neighbours and the person who nominated the tree of:

■ the process for assessing a tree’s significance
■ the implications and responsibilities should a tree nomination be supported; and
■ the outcome of the assessment and the process for responding or objecting.

For more information, please contact
Bernard Usher,
Strategic Tree Planning Officer
PHONE 9386 7916
EMAIL bernieu@waverley.nsw.gov.au

Frequently asked questions...

A tree on my property has been added to the Significant Tree Register. Does this mean the tree can’t be pruned?

Approval for any work would require a Development Application and an arborist’s report (the fee would be waived for minor works). Any major root or branch pruning would require a more detailed report from a consulting arborist.

What if I don’t want a tree on my property to be included on the register?

Not every tree nominated will be placed on the register. If a tree on your property is assessed by our consulting arborists to meet the criteria you will be notified and given a period of 28 days to respond. The consulting arborists will then reply to your concerns. If, however, you still do not want the tree to be listed, your concerns will be forwarded in a draft report to Council for a final decision.

My neighbour has a significant tree on their land. Will I be notified if they intend to prune, remove or undertake development near the tree?

For any work on or near a significant tree the property owner would be required to submit a Development Application. Adjoining neighbours would be notified of the application and invited to comment. Any application to remove or substantially prune a listed significant tree may be subject to a report to Council for a final decision.

I’ve nominated a tree but it wasn’t considered significant. Will there be any other protection for that tree?

Not all trees nominated will meet the criteria for inclusion on the Significant Tree Register. However, all trees over four metres high are still protected under Council’s Tree Preservation Order. This order is being updated with greater controls into a separate Tree Development Control Plan. This plan will then be incorporated into the revised Local Environment Plan for Waverley.

What restrictions are there if I want to develop my property?

If a proposed development comes close to the root zone of a tree on the Significant Tree Register a consulting arborist’s report will need to be submitted with the Development Application. Check with Council prior to lodging the application.

Will I be expected to maintain a tree on my property if it is included on the register? Will Council assist in the cost?

Tree owners would be expected to maintain and preserve any listed tree. Council cannot assist in the upkeep of a tree but can provide arboricultural advice.

Will I need to pay a fee to apply to prune the tree?

For all work on a significant tree, a Development Application will need to be lodged. If the work is classified as minor pruning, the Development Application fee will be waived.