

Adopt a Tree program

What is the Adopt a Tree program?

The Adopt a Tree program invites community members to help care for street trees on the verges adjacent to their property.

Participants in the program can assist by:

- Monitoring the street tree and notifying the Town of any problems.
- Watering the tree.
- Transforming the verge into a waterwise garden, with support from the Town's Verge Rebate program.

As per the Street and Reserve Trees Council Policy, the pruning or maintenance of trees is restricted to Town employees or a qualified arborist approved by the Town.

How does the program work?

If you would like to adopt a street tree, please complete the online form at tinyurl.com/4h2yh2u3, email mail@bassendean.wa.gov.au or call 9377 8000.

Caring for juvenile trees

Young trees are vulnerable to weeds (which compete for moisture and nutrients), pests, and vandalism. For young trees to flourish, they require proper staking, mulch around their base, and weekly watering during dry periods. The Town provides water for trees during first 2 to 3 summers after planting and will re-stake them if necessary.

Participants in the program can assist juvenile trees by:

- Monitoring and reporting any changes in the tree's condition.
- Watering the tree weekly. The tree will require approximately forty litres of water per week.

Report pests with MyPestGuide

MyPestGuide Reporter is a free photo reporting app for the community to quickly and easily report pests (insects, animals, weeds, diseases) across Australia.

Users create reports using their device's camera and GPS, then describe the pest and its surroundings, provide contact details and submit their reports.

Department experts verify the report, identify the pest, map it and most importantly provide the user with feedback and advice. Download the app from agric.wa.gov.au/apps/mypestguide-reporter.

Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer (PSHP)

Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) *Euwallacea fornicatus* is a beetle native to Southeast Asia. The beetle attacks a wide range of plants by tunnelling into trunks, stems and branches.

PSHB has a symbiotic relationship with a *Fusarium* fungus, farming it inside the tree as a food source for the beetle and its larvae. In susceptible trees, the fungus kills vascular tissue causing dieback and tree death.

Look out for signs of the polyphagous shot-hole borer:

- Beetle entry holes (approximately the size of a ballpoint pen tip)
- Discolouration or staining of wood
- Gumming
- Galleries
- Frass
- Dieback.

Visit agric.wa.gov.au/borer for more information.

If you notice these signs in a tree, report it online agric.wa.gov.au/pests-weeds-diseases/mypestguide, through the MyPestGuide™ Reporter app, or by calling 9368 3080. Please also follow quarantine area restrictions to prevent spread.

