

# Town of Gawler Removal/Pruning a Tree on my Property



This guide will assist in determining if removal or pruning of a tree on your land requires council approval. For a more detailed overview of regulated tree and significant tree legislation, please refer to the State Government Information Sheet 'Protecting Regulated and Significant Trees'.

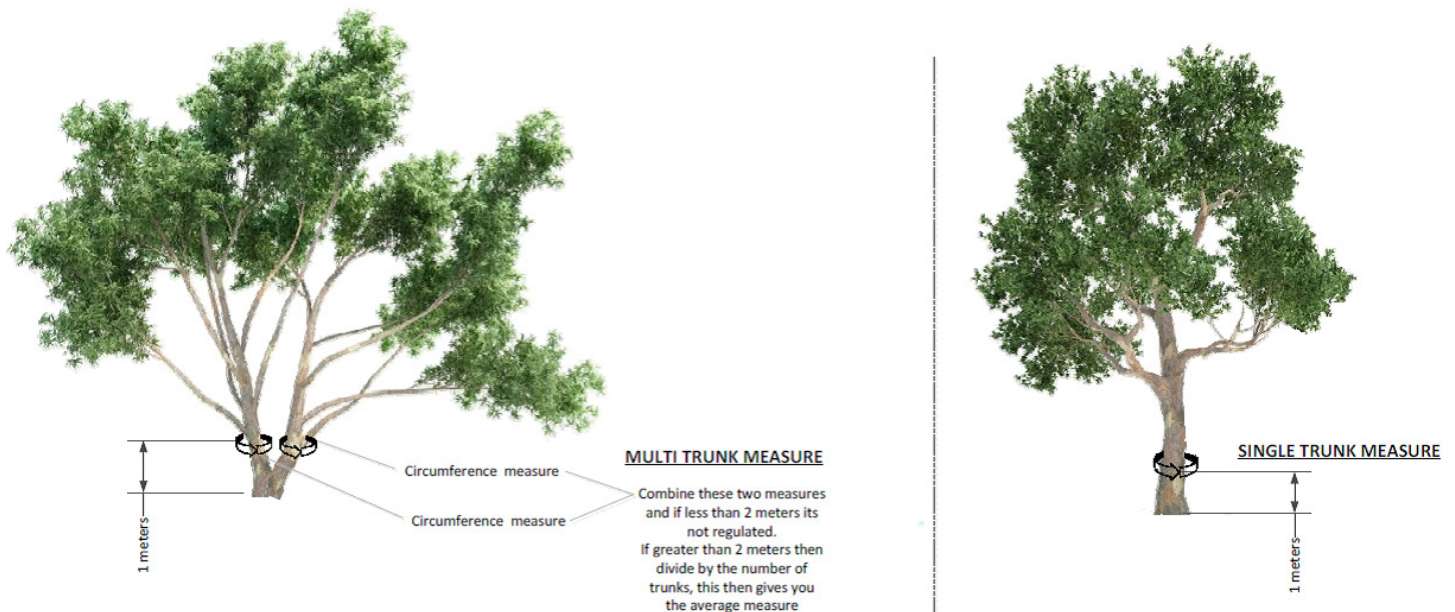
**Follow these steps to determine if approval is required to remove/prune your tree:**

## **Step 1: Measure the circumference of the tree's trunk(s)**

For single trunk trees, measure the tree's circumference (girth) at 1m above natural ground level as pictured below.

- If the circumference of the tree is less than 2m - you don't require approval to remove or prune it regardless of the species.
- If the circumference is between 2m-3m - your tree is a Regulated Tree. Proceed to STEP 2 below.
- If the circumference is over 3m - it is a Significant Tree and Council approval is required before it can be removed or pruned.
- For multi trunk trees, measure and combine the circumference (girth) of each trunk at 1m above ground level as pictured below.
- If the total circumference is greater than 3m, divide that total by the number of trunks.
- If the average circumference is 625mm or more - your tree is a Significant Tree and Council approval is required before it can be removed or pruned.
- If the average circumference is less than 625mm - you don't require approval to remove or prune the tree.
- If the total circumference is greater than 2m, divide that total by the number of trunks.
- If the average circumference is 625mm or more - your tree is a Regulated Tree. Proceed to STEP 2 below.
- If the average circumference is less than 625mm - you don't require approval to remove or prune the tree.

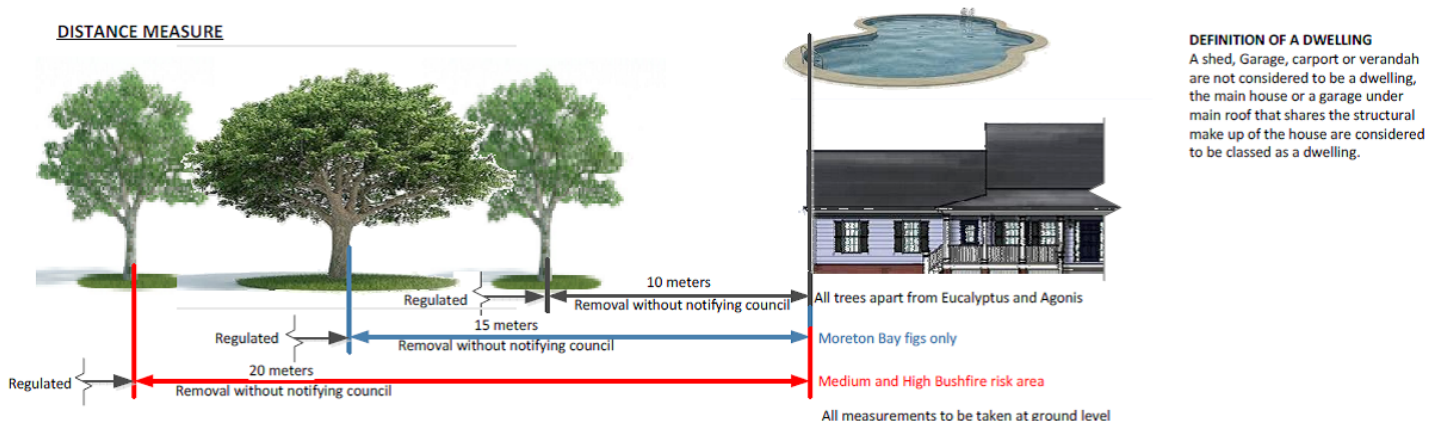
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## Step 2: Determine the species of tree that you wish to remove or prune

You may need a qualified Arborist or Horticulturalist to help you determine the species of the tree.

- If the species of tree is any type of Eucalyptus or Agonis - Council approval is required before it can be removed or pruned.
- If the species of tree is on the list of excluded species overleaf - you don't require approval to remove or prune the tree.
- If the species of tree is any other species - proceed to STEP 3 below.



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### Step 3: Measure the distance from the trunk to the nearest dwelling or swimming pool.

Measure the distance from the tree's trunk to the nearest dwelling or swimming pool - whether it is on your or an adjoining property.

- If the distance is less than 10m - you don't require approval to remove/prune the tree unless the species is a Eucalyptus or Agonis.
- If the tree is greater than 10m from the nearest dwelling or swimming pool, Council approval is required before the tree can be removed or pruned, with the following exceptions:
- If the tree is a Moreton Bay Fig - you don't require approval if it is less than 15m from the nearest dwelling or swimming pool
- If your property is in a Medium or High Bushfire Risk Area - you don't require approval if it is less than 20m from the nearest dwelling or swimming pool.

The Development Regulations 2008 state that the following species of tree can be removed or pruned without Council Approval, regardless of the size of the tree. You may need to engage the services of an arborist to assist you in determining the species of tree.

- *Acer negundo* (Box Elder)
- *Acer saccharinum* (Silver Maple)
- *Ailanthus altissima* (Tree of Heaven)
- *Alnus acuminata* subsp. *Glabrata* (Evergreen Alder)
- *Celtis australis* (European Nettle Tree)
- *Celtis Sinensis* (Chinese Nettle Tree)
- *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphor Laurel)
- *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress)
- *Ficus* spp. (Figs) other than *Ficus Macrophylla* (Morton Bay Fig) located more than 15 metres from a dwelling
- *Fraxinus angustifolia* (Narrow-leaved Ash)
- *Fraxinus angustifolia* ssp. *Oxycarpa* (Desert Ash)
- *Lagunaria Patersonia* (Norfolk Island Hibiscus)
- *Melaleuca styphelioides* (Prickly-leaved Paperbark)
- *Pinus Radiata* (Radiata Pine/Monterey Pine)
- *Platanus x acerifolia* (London Plane)
- *Populus alba* (Alba poplar)
- *Populus nigra* var. *italica* (Lombardy Poplar)
- *Robinia pseudoacacia* (Black Locust)
- *Salix Babylonica* (Weeping Willow)
- *Salix chilensis* 'Fastigiata' (Chilean Willow, Evergreen Willow, Pencil Willow)
- *Salix Fragilis* (Crack Willow)
- *Salix X Rubens* (White Crack Willow, Basket Willow)
- *Salix X sepulcralis* var. *chrysocoma* (Golden Weeping Willow)
- *Schinus areira* (Peppercorn Tree)