

KANGAROO ISLAND COUNCIL

2023-2027 Street Tree Program

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Introduction

Most Councils across Australia undertake an annual tree planting program within their townships or offer incentives for their residents to sponsor street trees. Street trees offer a range of benefits to the character of our townships, community wellbeing, property values and the environment.

This document demonstrates the Kangaroo Island Council's five year commitment (2023-2027) to installing street trees within its four largest townships of Kingscote, Penneshaw, American River and Parndana. Large areas of these townships contain remnant bushland and vegetation in the road reserves, meaning street trees are not required and unsuitable. The largest urban centre of Kingscote is the main priority for street tree planting in the program due to its extensive treeless street network and built environment.

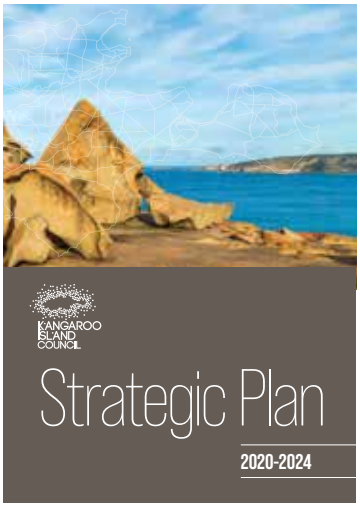
While trees offer a range of benefits, not all trees make good street trees. Council intends to use this document to inform future planting schedules and provide suitable replacements for existing problematic species within the built environment. The criteria in species selection is outlined in this document.

The species included in this plan consider the need for a range of tree species across the townships to offer better resilience against pests, disease, climatic challenges and aesthetic benefits.

Kangaroo Island Council welcomes residents' input and support of this initiative to enhance the appearance of its townships, improve the wellbeing of its community and mitigate the effects of climate change.



"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now".



4.4.4
Develop a Council tree planting program.

INDIRECT STRATEGIC ALIGNMENTS

1.3 Deliver a built environment that responds to community and business needs.
1.3.3 Make improvements to the streetscape character in the four main townships.

2.3 Improve Island liveability.
2.3.3 Enhance the character, amenity, safety and accessibility of the built environment e.g. sporting facilities, parks, gardens, playgrounds, pools, toilets, boat ramps, trails, streetscapes etc.

Street Tree Benefits



Street Tree Benefits



Biodiversity and wildlife

Trees contribute to biodiversity not just through the diversity of tree species planted, but they provide habitat and food sources for other plants, animals, insects, and micro-organisms, and also the range of ecosystems they form part of in the landscape.



Improved air quality

Trees in built up areas have a significant effect on air quality. Trees can affect the concentration of air pollutants that we breathe in by directly removing pollutants. Bigger canopies can trap more particles than smaller ones, and larger leaves can trap more pollutants than small ones.



Climate change effects

Street trees provide shade and reduce the "heat island" effect of the urban environment that causes global warming. Trees can help reduce temperatures of hardscape areas by 5-15 degrees and carbon sequestration can mitigate the effects of climate change.



Improved mental health

Multiple studies have demonstrated the benefits of having strong connections to nature in the form of trees and vegetation. The benefits include reduced physiological stress, improved concentration and work productivity, and faster recovery from illness, amongst others.



Reduced crime

In suburban neighbourhoods, the presence of green space and trees is associated with increased social interaction and cohesion, as well as with reduced anti-social behaviour and crime. There is a direct correlation between an increase in tree canopy and a decrease in crime, particularly when trees are established on public rather than private land.



Increased property value

The presence of healthy urban street trees is associated with increased property values. The extent of the benefit has been measured in multiple studies, and varies from location to location. In general, healthy trees planted at an appropriate density (not too few, not too many) are likely to result in the greatest increase in property values.



Water quality & flood mitigation

Urban trees can slow the speed of rainfall run-off from urban areas with large areas of impervious surfaces into stormwater drains. This contributes to improved water quality in lakes and waterways as it means reduced erosion, less litter, pollutants and organic matter are washed into lakes and waterways as a result of storms.



Scenic amenity & heritage

Streets trees can provide a sense of identity to a street and local area, especially where avenues of the same species are used. They can also reflect the history of an area, providing an important link with the past and are a long term investment, with street tree lifecycles typically 30-50 years, and sometimes more.

Selection Criteria



The right tree for the right location

Selection Considerations

- Proximity to utilities and infrastructure (sewer, powerlines, footpaths, etc)
- Public safety e.g. dropping of branches/fruit/nuts
- Root invasiveness
- Height and shape
- Leaf litter (deciduous/evergreen)
- Climate and conditions (coastal salt spray, wind, temperature)
- Character/visual amenity
- Existing trees/ context
- Weed/ invasive potential
- Soil type
- Maintenance requirements



The evergreen native tuckeroo *(Cupaniopsis anacardioides)* tree was selected as a main species in the Town Centres Project in 2022 due to its tolerance for windy and salty coastal conditions, a range of soil conditions and non-invasive roots.



The flowering gum *(Corymbia ficifolia)* was a common species planted around the townships of Parndana and Kingscote, however despite their attractive summer flowers, the large nuts of the species are problematic and create a hazard on Council's footpaths.



Norfolk Island Pines *(Araucaria heterophylla)* are an attractive and uniform species that are iconic across Australia's coastal towns. However, they are unsuitable for tight spaces or close to infrastructure such as powerlines.

Note:
Council intends to plant new trees in the locations indicated in this plan, but there may also be supplementary removal of problematic species required as part of the Street Tree Program, with replacement trees intended where practicable.

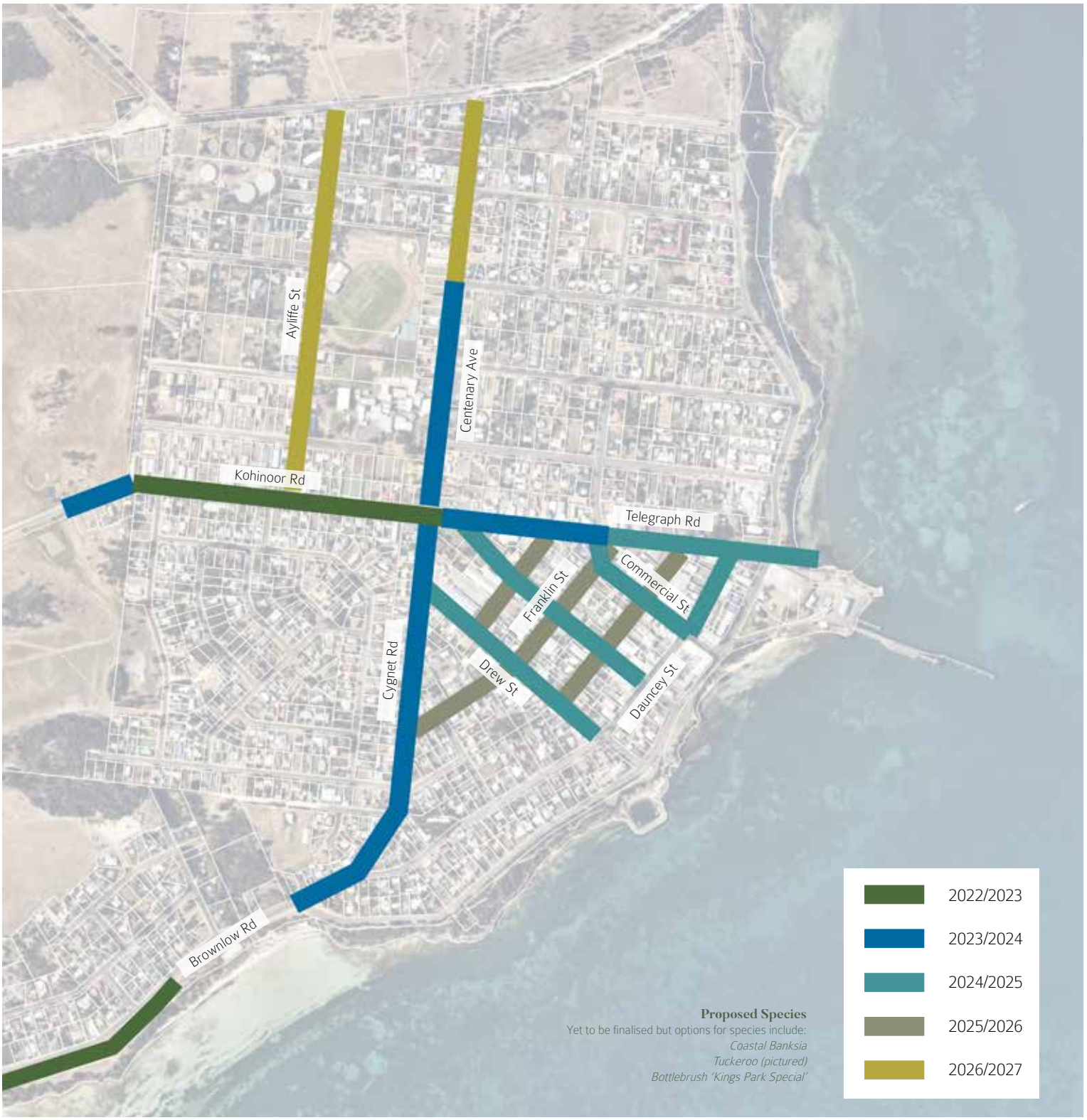


KI Glossy Black Cockatoo *(Calyptorhynchus lathami halmaturinus),* American River
This subspecies feeds almost exclusively on the seeds of the drooping sheoak (Allocasuarina verticillata), and nests in hollows in large old-age Eucalyptus species.

Proposed Locations



Kingscote



Kohinoor Rd
- Callistemon viminalis *Weeping Bottlebrush*

Brownlow Rd
- Araucaria heterophylla *Norfolk Island Pine*

Cygnet Rd
- Callistemon viminalis *Weeping Bottlebrush*

Centenary Ave & Cygnet Rd
- Species yet to be determined

Drew St
- Species yet to be determined

Commercial St
- Species yet to be determined

Murray St
- Callistemon viminalis *Weeping Bottlebrush*
- Ulmus parvifolia *Chinese Elm*

Dauncey St (north)
- Cupaniopsis anacardioides *Tuckeroo*

Osmond St
- Species yet to be determined

Franklin St
- Species yet to be determined

Grenfell St
- Species yet to be determined

Penneshaw



North Tce
- Araucaria heterophylla *Norfolk Island Pine*

Thomas Willson St
- Species yet to be determined

Nat Thomas St
- Species yet to be determined

Howard Dr
- Araucaria heterophylla *Norfolk Island Pine*

Middle Tce
- Cupaniopsis anacardioides *Tuckeroo*
- Agonis flexuosa *Willow Myrtle*
- Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius 'Bella Pink'

Parndana

Due to the remnant bushland within the township and verges that contribute positively to Parndana's town character and biodiversity, there are limited opportunities for street tree planting beyond those locations identified below.



Cook St & Smith St

- *Callistemon viminalis* Weeping Bottlebrush
- *Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius* 'Jerilderie Red'

Wedgewood Rd

- *Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius* 'Jerilderie Red'

American River

The township of American River is known affectionately as where the 'bush meets the bay' and the presence of existing native vegetation within the road reserve means there are limited opportunities for street tree planting beyond those locations identified below.



Tangara Dr

- *Callistemon viminalis* Weeping Bottlebrush
- *Pittosporum angustifolium* Native Apricot
- *Allocasuarina verticillata* Drooping Sheoak
- *Agonis flexuosa* Willow Myrtle
- *Corymbia citriodora 'Scentuous'* Dwarf Lemon-Scented Gum
- *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* Tuckeroo

Buick Dr

- Species yet to be determined

Entry at Tangara & Buick Dr

- *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* SA Blue Gum
- *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* Sugar Gum

Note: During consultation for the Town Centres Project in 2021, there was strong community support to introduce a number of *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Pine trees to define the town centre with the iconic form of these trees around the wharf precinct. The final species and quantities will be confirmed closer to the proposed planting date.

Proposed Species



Overview

Large Trees 15m+

Suitable for use in parks, reserves, large gardens, wide verges and where clashes with existing infrastructure are unlikely.

- *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Pine
- *Eucalyptus leucoxylon* SA Blue Gum
- *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* Sugar Gum

Medium Trees 8-15m

Suitable for use in parks, reserves, large gardens, street trees with wider verges, in protuberances or tighter spaces with appropriate protection from services. Some species may be suitable under powerlines with pruning.

- *Agonis flexuosa* Willow Myrtle
- *Corymbia citriodora 'Scentuous'* Dwarf Lemon-Scented Gum
- *Ulmus parvifolia* Chinese Elm
- *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* Tuckeroo
- *Banksia integrifolia* Coastal Banksia

Small Trees 4-8m

Suitable for use under powerlines, in tight spaces, along narrow verges, and may require some understorey pruning to enable pedestrians and vehicles to pass by.

- *Callistemon viminalis* Weeping Bottlebrush
- *Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius* 'Bella Pink'
- *Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius* 'Jerilderie Red'
- *Pittosporum angustifolium* Native Apricot
- *Allocasuarina verticillata* Drooping Sheoak
- *Eucalyptus leucoxylon 'Euky Dwarf'* Dwarf Blue Gum

Callistemon viminalis
Weeping Bottlebrush

Botanic name: Callistemon viminalis
Common name: Weeping Bottlebrush
Family: Myrtaceae
Origin: Eastern Australia
Height: 4m

Great for coastal exposed positions. A widely used native evergreen feature tree for small to medium gardens and as a street tree. Wildlife-attracting and suitable for use under powerlines. A popular cultivar includes 'Kings Park Special'.





Where to find it:
Kohinoor Road, Kingscote
Dauncey Street South, Kingscote
Cook Street, Parndana

Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius ‘Bella Pink’

Botanic name: Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius ‘Bella Pink’
Common name: Flame Tree
Family: Malvaceae
Origin: Eastern Australia
Height: 8m

A pretty and compact street tree, or backyard feature tree. The form and colour of this magnificent Australian tree makes it suitable for many urban situations including commercial landscapes, streetscapes, schools, parks and golf courses.

It is a very reliable shade tree and known for its beautiful, showy pink flowers that appear in spring and summer, which make it a great ornamental tree. The tree is deciduous and requires low maintenance, it prefers well-drained soil.





Where to find it:
Middle Terrace, Penneshaw

Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius 'Jerilderie Red'

Botanic name: Brachychiton populneus x acerifolius 'Jerilderie Red'
Common name: Flame Tree
Family: Malvaceae
Origin: Eastern Australia
Height: 8m

This evergreen native tree has masses of cascading large deep red bell-shaped flowers in late spring and early summer, on a broad-domed and large trunk.

It makes an ideal specimen, shade or feature tree which is well suited to parks, golf courses, public gardens, streetscapes, as well as smaller gardens.

The new foliage is bright red which adds another interesting aspect to this tree. 'Jerilderie Red' prefers a sunny location with well-draining soil. It is drought and frost tolerant once established, and the glossy foliage is fire retardant.





Where to find it:
Cook Street, Parndana

Pittosporum angustifolium
Native Apricot

Botanic name: Pittosporum angustifolium
Common name: Native Apricot
Family: Pittosporaceae
Origin: Australia-wide (incl. KI)
Height: 10m

An evergreen native small tree with a stem that is erect, slender and smooth, with typically weeping branches and a lightly textured crown. Bell-shaped flowers are pale yellow and occur in clusters during spring; with marble-sized, orange edible berries.

Native to arid and semi-arid areas of Australia, it prefers light to heavy soils in an open, sunny position. It is drought and frost tolerant.





Where to find it:
Tangara Drive, American River

Allocasuarina verticillata
Drooping Sheoak

Botanic name: Allocasuarina verticillata
Common name: Drooping Sheoak
Family: Casuarinaceae
Origin: South Eastern Australia
Height: 9m

This medium-sized native tree has a conical shape and pendulous or drooping branches. This nitrogen-fixing tree is known for its use through indigenous communities as food, medicine and for making tools.

It tolerates drought, heavy frost and coastal conditions. The tree is evergreen and flowers are yellow to red and develop into cones that are round to barrel-shaped with a serrated surface.

This tree works well for informal screening and shade, making it great for parks or garden spaces. It is an important food source for the KI Glossy Black Cockatoo and requires local provenance for use on Kangaroo Island.





Where to find it:
Tangara Drive, American River
Seaview Road, Kingscote

Corymbia citriodora 'Scentuous' Dwarf Lemon- Scented Gum

Botanic name: Corymbia citriodora 'Scentuous'
Common name: Dwarf Lemon-Scented Gum
Family: Myrtaceae
Origin: East Coast of Australia
Height: 8-12m

This compact mature tree with a uniform growth and habit is highly bird attracting and a useful specimen in commercial and residential landscapes, particularly in coastal areas.

This corymbia prefers a well-drained soil in a full sun position. It can tolerate frost and drought. It tolerates a range of soils and grows rapidly with or without moisture.

Its scented foliage and decorative bark, as well as its reduced tendency to drop branches makes it an attractive native tree for a range of uses.





Where to find it:
Dauncey Street, Kingscote
Cook Street, Parndana

Agonis flexuosa
Willow Myrtle

Botanic name: Agonis flexuosa
Common name: Willow Myrtle
Family: Myrtaceae
Origin: SW Western Australia
Height: 8-10m

An attractive medium-sized evergreen tree with a pendular habit. It has clusters of small white flowers that grow on the branches in between the leaves in spring and summer. It has long thin shiny leaves that hang from the drooping branches giving it an all over similar appearance to a Willow tree.

It should be pruned with care to retain its ideal shape, and will be able to be grown under power lines. Because of its many tolerances, it is ideal for all coastal and near coastal sites but tolerates a range of conditions.





Where to find it:
Chapman Terrace, Kingscote
Lloyd Collins Reserve, Penneshaw
Tangara Drive, American River

Ulmus parvifolia
Chinese Elm

Botanic name: Ulmus parvifolia
Common name: Chinese Elm
Family: Ulmaceae
Origin: East Asia
Height: 12m

The deciduous Chinese Elm may be used as an avenue tree or as a specimen in larger parks. Elms are hardy and resistant to winds, many adverse conditions and tolerant of atmospheric pollution.

Elms are best planted in Winter when dormant and are suitable for the cold to cool temperate regions of Australia. It is highly tolerant to urban conditions and has excellent uniformity.





Where to find it:
Dauncey & Murray St, Kingscote
Lloyd Collins Reserve, Penneshaw
Tangara Drive, American River

Cupaniopsis anacardioides
Tuckeroo

Botanic name: Cupaniopsis anacardioides
Common name: Tuckeroo
Family: Sapindaceae
Origin: East Coast of Australia
Height: 5-8m

This is an attractive Australian evergreen native that is popular as a street tree due to its dark green foliage, compact height, rounded form and non-invasive root system.

Cream flowers appear during autumn followed by bright orange fruit making it a favourite tree for birds.

Great for use in streetscapes, parks and as a feature tree in residential gardens. It can also be used for screening and is highly tolerant of windy and coastal locations.





Where to find it:
Dauncey & Murray St, Kingscote
Middle Terrace, Penneshaw
Tangara Drive, American River

Banksia integrifolia
Coastal Banksia

Botanic name: Banksia integrifolia
Common name: Coastal Banksia
Family: Proteaceae
Origin: East Coast of Australia
Height: up to 15m

This is an attractive feature tree that is great for coastal planting and can be pruned. It will withstand most soil types including heavy clay and sandy soils. A good option for a windbreak in coastal areas.

It has rough patterned bark and long green leaves with a silver underside. Pale yellow, cylinder-shaped flowers can be seen in summer to winter, and the ornamental seed pods stay on the branch for extended periods.





Where to find it:
Ayliffe Street, Kingscote

Araucaria heterophylla
Norfolk Island Pine

Botanic name: Araucaria heterophylla
Common name: Norfolk Island Pine
Family: Araucariaceae
Origin: Norfolk Island
Height: 50m+

An iconic tree due to its beautifully symmetrical shape that is a native to Norfolk Island, where it can reach up to 60m tall.

It is well suited to a coastal position where it tolerates full blown salt spray and heavy wind. Is also commonly planted in large parks and gardens around the world and in seaside towns across Australia.





Where to find it:
Brownlow Rd, Kingscote
Esplanade, Kingscote
North Terrace, Penneshaw

Eucalyptus cladocalyx
Sugar Gum

Botanic name: Eucalyptus cladocalyx
Common name: Sugar Gum
Family: Myrtaceae
Origin: SA
Height: 15m

A small to tall tree endemic to South Australia. Subspecies *cladocalyx* is restricted to the Eyre Peninsula, subspecies *crassa* to Kangaroo Island and subspecies *petila* to the southern Flinders Ranges. It is not closely related to any other eucalypt species and may be distinguished by the mottled bark somewhat like that of grey gums, strongly discolorous adult leaves that are paler on the underside, and inflorescences on leafless portions of branchlets inside the crown.

An important habitat source for local wildlife, this tree is not suitable for tighter areas with heavy pedestrian use or frequent parking of vehicles, and is better suited to wider road verges or entry statements in groups.





Where to find it:
Buick Drive, American River

Eucalyptus leucoxylon
SA Blue Gum

Botanic name: Eucalyptus leucoxylon
Common name: SA Blue Gum
Family: Myrtaceae
Origin: SA
Height: 30m

Eucalyptus leucoxylon is a medium-sized tree which reaches 10-30 metres in height. The bark is retained on the lower trunk but the upper trunk and branches are smooth-barked and cream to grey in colour. The adult leaves are lance-shaped to about 200 mm long. The flowers are usually seen in autumn and winter and may be white, cream, pink or red.

It is regularly planted for windbreaks, shade, honey production and for ornamental purposes and it grows well in alkaline soils.

An important habitat source for local wildlife, the full-sized version of this tree is less suitable for tighter areas with heavy pedestrian use or frequent parking of vehicles, and is better suited to wider road verges or entry statements in groups. The 'Euky Dwarf' can be used as a street tree.



Large Tree





Small Tree

FAQs

How will I know when trees are to be planted in my street?

This document intends to advise the community of proposed locations each year until 2027, with notice of works to be provided by Council's social media and newspaper updates. Each property that has been identified to receive a tree will be notified by a letter in their letterbox and markings can be expected on the verge prior to the plantings taking place.

Will Council water new street trees?

Yes, street trees planted as part of our program will be watered regularly until establishment. We always encourage residents to provide supplementary watering particularly in periods of hot weather.

Will Council prune the tree in front of my property?

Council has tree maintenance programs focussed on managing risk and keeping footpaths and roads clear. If there is a specific tree that requires pruning, you can make a request and Council will undertake an inspection of the tree to determine what work may be required.

What happens if a tree is vandalisd or damaged?

You can report a vandalised tree to Council and we will send someone to assess the tree, and if necessary, Council will trim, remove or replace it.

How does Council decide which streets receive trees?

Council has endorsed a 5-year planting plan that outlines priority actions and locations for tree planting across the four townships of Kingscote, Penneshaw, American River and Parndana. The number of trees is based on an annual fixed budget commitment. The selection of streets and species chosen to be planted is based on criteria including higher use or more prominent streets, existing infrastructure and character.

Can I change the tree species which are planned for planting in my street?

When choosing tree species, several factors are considered, such as verge size, soil composition, road proximity, utility infrastructure and street aesthetics. We welcome discussions on these aspects and can provide information about the planned tree species.

When will the tree planting be undertaken?

The best time to plant street trees is between May and September when rain is most likely to help the tree grow. Requests for new or replacement street trees will be accepted through the summer months, but unfortunately due to the temperature, the trees will not be planted until the following planting season. Planting of trees may also be impacted by planned footpath or road programmed work.

Will Council remove bark and leaves from the footpath?

Seasonal shedding of bark, leaves, gumnuts or sticks, as well as wildlife activities, such as birds, bees and possums are natural events and do not require Council attendance (with exception to occasional programmed street sweeping activities) but for larger matters such as branches Council can be notified through a maintenance request.

Does Council prune trees around power lines?

SA Power Networks is responsible for pruning trees and clearing vegetation around powerlines.

What about my view?

Council will not remove trees to improve your view but Council will give consideration to existing views when selecting specific tree species and locations for planting. This doesn't mean we won't plant a tree, but we may adjust its positioning if possible.