

Hazardous tree removal after bushfire

Information for community members regarding the treatment and removal of hazardous trees that are damaged by fire



Following a bushfire, fire-damaged trees can pose a significant risk to public safety. These trees may require removal or other treatment.

Identifying hazardous trees

A hazardous tree has significant structural defects that increase the risk of falling causing injury or death. The effect of fire can cause or worsen defects at the bowl, trunk or major limbs and may include the following characteristics:

- A reduction of more than half of wood at any cross section of the trunk or major limb
- Dead and/or decaying tree or major branches
- Suspected loose or broken branches
- Evidence of longitudinal cracking
- Evidence of roots lifting or disturbed root system
- Significant lean with indicators of failure

Removal of hazardous trees on public land

DELWP is responsible for the removal of hazardous trees on public or Crown land that are damaged by bushfires and pose an immediate safety risk along roads, tracks and public sites.

Fire agencies are not responsible for the removal of hazardous trees on private property after the transition to recovery.

Removal of hazardous trees on private property

If you are concerned about hazardous trees on your property, contact your local council and make an appointment with an arborist.

An arborist will inspect the tree and provide a report and advice regarding treatment of the trees.

© The State of Victoria Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning 2017



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence. You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, the Victorian Government logo and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) logo. To view a copy of this licence, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>

Printed by <Insert Name of printer - Suburb>

ISBN XXX-X-XXXX-XXX-X (print)

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.