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| 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

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**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.