

WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSULTING ARBORISTS' REPORTS

The following items **MUST** be addressed in the report:

- ◆ The report must also contain the name, address and telephone number and qualifications of the person or company carrying out the report.
- ◆ Who commissioned the report, why the report was commissioned and what the report examines.
- ◆ The address of the site containing the trees and the date of the inspection.
- ◆ The methods or techniques used in the inspection and an abstract/ synopsis of the inspection.
- ◆ A survey/ site map showing the accurate location of all trees and numbered to correspond with the text.
- ◆ For each tree a matrix containing the scientific name, common name, height, canopy spread, trunk diameter at breast and form, health condition and a SULE rating.
- ◆ A discussion of the data collected – this may include detailed information regarding wounds, cavities, cracks, splits, forking, root zone, pests and diseases.
- ◆ Supporting evidence such as photographs of each tree must be included.
- ◆ A discussion of all options available – why they are recommended or why they are not recommended e.g. can the proposed building or structure be relocated and the tree retained?
- ◆ A recommendation as to the preferred option and the reasons that are independent to the proposed works. **It is not acceptable to simply state a healthy tree is to be removed due to the proposed development.**
- ◆ The Arborist must recommend required setbacks (i.e. Structural Root Zones and Tree Protection Zones) for each tree proposed to be retained; these zones should in turn guide the design/layout of the development.
- ◆ A Tree Protection Plan specifying tree protection measures prior to and during construction, including future maintenance works must be provided within the report.
- ◆ Do not include data unless it is relevant to the report and lends weight to a contentious issue.
- ◆ References used must be provided within the report. Reference to the **AS 4970-2009 'Protection of trees on development sites'** is essential.

The above list is not exhaustive and there may be other site considerations necessary to ensure adequate information is supplied to Council.

A professional report **from an AQF Level 5 Consulting Arborist with a minimum Diploma of Horticulture (Arboriculture) is required by Council** plus a minimum 5 years' post graduate experience. Membership of a professional arboricultural association (see below) is also recommended.

* AQF is a nationally recognised qualification; AQF Levels 4 & 5 denotes a higher qualification (Diploma) than a tradesperson (Level 2 or 3 – Certificate).

More information on Level 5 Consulting Arborists can be obtained from:

- Arboriculture Australia 1300 664 374
www.arboriculture.org.au
- Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists 1300 853 288 www.iaca.org.au

INFORMATION ON TREES IN WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL

To access information on Tree and Vegetation Management in Wingecarribee Shire Council and to access Council's online self-assessment tools, please visit:

<http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/environment/management-of-trees/tree-and-vegetation-clearing-on-private-land>