

## EMPLOYING A QUALIFIED ARBORIST NOT A LOPPER!

Before you employ that ‘cheap’ tree lopper or ‘door-knocker’ seeking to chop down or lop your trees, have you asked yourself these six important questions?

1. Have I applied for written Council approval for these tree works?
2. Have I got two or three written quotations on the tree company’s letterhead with their ABN number?
3. Have I asked the tree company for a copy of their Public Liability & Workers’ Compensation Insurances required to perform this type of work?
4. Have I asked the Arborist about his/her qualifications? (eg. TAFE trained; Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Levels 2 – 5)
5. Does the Arborist follow WorkCover’s Code of Practice 2007 Standards for Tree Work?
6. Does the Arborist perform pruning works to the Australia Standard 4373 – 2007 ‘Pruning of Amenity Trees’?

## On-The-Spot Fines or Court Action

Important Notice: If you employ a person or company to perform illegal tree works you will be held responsible for those works and may receive a substantial fine (\$3000 for an individual & \$6000 for a company) or be taken to Court.

## Contact Council First

Before starting any tree work you should use Council’s online self-assessment tools at <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/environment/management-of-trees/tree-and-vegetation-clearing-on-private-land> to determine which works require written approval and which works are exempt under Council’s Tree Management Controls.

Find a Qualified Arborist at these website links:

- Arboriculture Australia 1300 664 374 [www.arboriculture.org.au](http://www.arboriculture.org.au)
- Tree Contractors Association 1300 660 379 [www.tcaa.com.au](http://www.tcaa.com.au)

## Information on Trees in the Wingecarribee Shire

For information on Tree Management in the Shire visit our website at <http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/environment/management-of-trees/tree-and-vegetation-clearing-on-private-land> to access online tools and an application form.