



## Unauthorised Damage of Vegetation

|                             |                                                                                                                                             |
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| <b>Status</b>               | Council                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Responsible Division</b> | Planning & Development Services                                                                                                             |
| <b>Objective</b>            | To provide a clear direction as to the appropriate response by the City in the event of unauthorised vegetation damage on Council Reserves. |

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### Context

The City is committed to the effective management and protection of vegetation. Unauthorised damage to vegetation on public land occurs from time to time particularly along foreshore and coastal areas. Vegetation is damaged for a number of reasons, ranging from random vandalism to deliberately planned acts, which may be occurring for private benefit such as the enhancement of views. This policy aims to discourage unauthorised damage of vegetation through the use of signage.

Vegetation within the City is of high importance and is significant in terms of:

- Habitat and biodiversity values;
- Erosion prevention;
- Visual amenity;
- Landscape protection;
- Shade provision;
- Wind buffer for residents and users of foreshore and coastal reserves;
- Cultural and historical significance;
- Contribution to developing and maintaining the urban forest; and
- Streetscape value.

### Statement

#### General

- The City may prosecute where an offender is identified who has caused unauthorised damage to vegetation on public land;
- The City will provide a mechanism to encourage community members to report unauthorised damage to vegetation on public land;
- The City will provide a significant deterrent against future unauthorised damage to vegetation on public land; and



- The City will pursue, in conjunction with a prosecution, any replacement costs for the vegetation and in the case of trees, their value in accordance with the City's Tree Register.

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### **Related documentation**

City of Nedlands Urban Forest Strategy 2018 – 2023

Natural Area Management Plans 2019-2024

Western Suburbs Greening Plan 2002

### **Related Local Law/legislation**

*Local Government Act 1995*

*Local Government Property Local Law 2010*

*Regulation No.5 of Local Government (Uniform Local Provisions)*

*Regulations (1996)*

*Environmental Protection Act (1986)*

### **Related delegation**

Nil

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### **Review History**

23 February 2021 (CEO Report 13.1)

26 June 2012 (CP27.12)

23 June 2015 (CPS14.15)