

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How much does a permit cost?
Council does not currently charge for this service.

Why do I need a permit?
All vegetation in the former Noosa Shire area is still protected under Local Law 10 until such times as new laws pertaining to vegetation are gazetted by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

Do I need a permit to remove dead trees?
Yes. Even dead trees have hollows which provide habitat for fauna.

I want to "tidy up" my property. Do I need a permit?
All vegetation is protected, even the undergrowth.

I am going to build a house/pool/garage. Can I cut the trees down?
Once your building plans have been approved the removal of some vegetation may be exempt from Local Law 10. Please ring for more information.

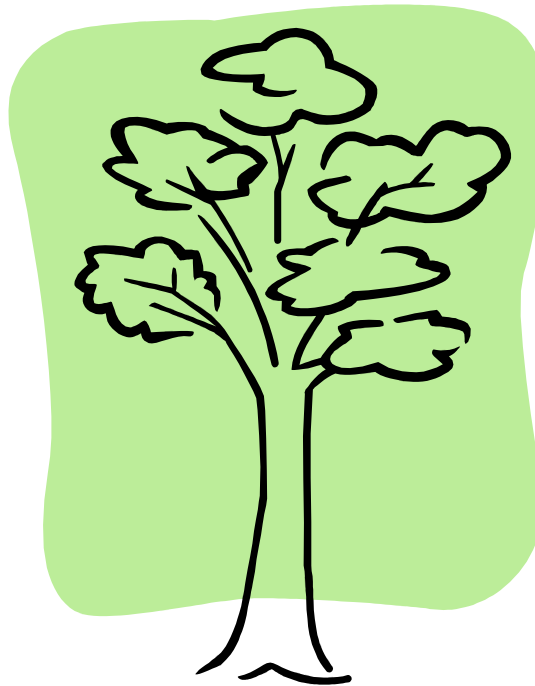
My neighbour's tree is causing problems on my property. What can I do about it?
You can prune the tree back to the fenceline, taking no more than 20% of the canopy of the tree in a 12 month period. If you wish to take more than 20%, you will need approval from council. Council cannot force your neighbour to remove the tree. This is a civil matter between you and your neighbour.

Do I need a permit to remove camphor laurel/lantana?
No. These are on our undesirable species list which is available from Council. You do not require a permit to remove any species on that list.

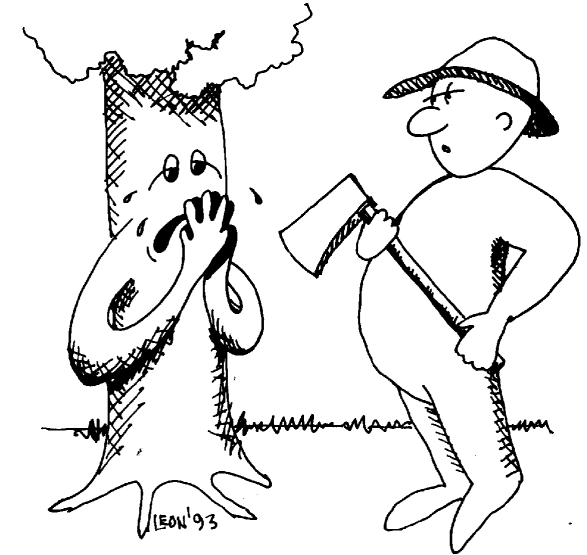
What if Council refused my application and I disagree with the decision?
You can obtain a report from a qualified arborist to support your application.

IMPORTANT

If in doubt, please
CALL BEFORE YOU CUT!



For more information, please telephone
Environmental Services Section,
Tewantin office, on
5449 5220



Protecting Noosa's Natural Environment

Local Law 10
Vegetation Management 2003

Sunshine Coast
Regional Council

Local Law 10 Vegetation Management 2003

Vegetation in the former Noosa Shire is protected under Noosa Council's Local Law 10—Vegetation Management 2003. The Local Law applies to all vegetation on freehold land within the former Noosa Shire until such times as new laws protecting vegetation are gazetted by the Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

The whole of the former Noosa Shire is now a Biosphere Reserve under the UNESCO Man & the Biosphere Program. With this honour comes an expectation that we respect, protect and enhance our natural environment.

Interference with vegetation to which the Local Law applies requires an approval unless the interference is an exempt activity. There is a range of activities that are exempt from requiring an approval under the Local Law.

Provisions under State & Federal legislation may also protect some vegetation.

The Local Law provides for larger land-holders to develop a property vegetation management plan, however, a planning application for Material Change of Use may be required in some circumstances.

A copy of the Local Law, application form and undesirable species list are available on Council's web site at:

<http://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/>



The Local law allows for a range of enforcement mechanisms in response to unlawful interference with vegetation. These include provisions for a Council-authorized officer to issue spot fines and infringement notices. The Local Law also establishes liability for executive officers of companies & third parties for unlawful interference with vegetation. Council may prosecute for offences and seek orders for restoration by Council or others with costs being met by the offender.

Why do we need trees?

The ecological services that trees provide include:

- Shade
- Visual amenity
- Pollination
- Climate regulation
- Erosion control (wind & water)
- Carbon sequestration
- Groundwater recharge reduction
- Surface water filtration
- Nutrient recycling
- Soil formation
- Air purification
- Weed exclusion, and
- Habitat for fauna

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