



about ... Street Tree Planting Species Selection

Community Update

April 2019

Trees are known to provide many mental and physical health benefits to people. They help filter particulates out of the air, absorb carbon dioxide and emit oxygen. Street and park trees offer mental and emotional restorative properties to people by helping to mitigate noise, providing a contrast to hard surfaces by establishing a connection to the natural world and importantly by reducing stress.

Tree lined streets are perceived as being narrower, with both curb and median planting an attractive solution to reduce vehicle speeds. Street trees also provide a buffer between pedestrians and vehicles. Street trees are extremely important as canopies reduce the amount and rate at which rainwater strikes the ground, thereby reducing erosion and stormwater management costs. Street trees produce many colours and flowers which attract birds and insects which are a vital part of our ecosystem.

There are many contributing factors that affect the selection of street trees. Some of these factors include curbing, concrete footpaths, gravel footpaths, driveways, SA Water, Sewer, Gas and Power.

Council have recently planted advanced exotic street trees and smaller native trees around Murray Bridge. Street trees are expensive to establish and maintain therefore Council aims to get the biggest impact for the money spent. Native and exotic trees have been trialled over the past forty years. The life span of native trees in the street environment is usually less than 30 years, those native trees that have proven to thrive will continue to be planted. Some exotic species have proven to last fifty to one hundred years of age before replacement saving the community many dollars in the process.

The links below may help you select some plants for your garden.



<http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin/plants-animals/native-plants-and-animals/native-plants>

<http://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/>

If you require further information regarding street tree planting, please contact Council's Group Leader Open Space, Darrin Lovegrove on (08) 8539 1170 or email d.lovegrove@murraybridge.sa.gov.au



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