



Media release

For immediate release

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Protecting the vitality of Subiaco's urban forest

The City of Subiaco is committed to protecting and preserving the extensive network of street trees, parks and reserves, green corridors, wetlands and remnant bushland that exist within the city.

The *Plant Pathogen Management Plan 2015–2019* outlines strategies to conserve the 15 000 street trees and 78 hectares of parks and reserves throughout the city from the introduction and spread of plant diseases.

The new management plan focuses on protecting our plants from four primary threats by minimising the spread of dieback, honey fungus, canker disease and sphaeropsis blight, all of which exist in the local area.

City of Subiaco Mayor Heather Henderson said that maintaining the wellbeing of plants and trees is a priority for the city.

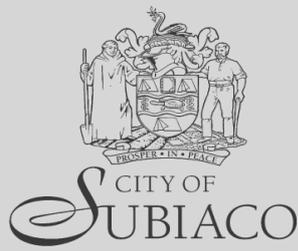
“The 3800 trees in the city’s parks and reserves alone have been valued at more than \$23 million, and consume 75 tonnes of carbon dioxide every year, so protecting our natural assets is extremely important,” Mayor Henderson said.

The city’s expansive urban forest is essential to the vitality of local ecosystems, and also delivers natural services like air and water filtration, carbon removal, local cooling and habitat for wildlife.

“Diverse tree-lined streets, and the pristine beauty of our parks and reserves are a central part of Subiaco’s identity, and our parks and environment team do a wonderful job in preserving these natural treasures,” Mayor Henderson said. “It is fantastic to see the implementation of innovative strategies to continue the vitality of the city’s cherished green spaces.”

For more information, download a copy of the *Plant Pathogen Management Plan 2015–2019* from the city’s website at www.subiaco.wa.gov.au

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Interview and photo opportunities available upon request.

Notes to the Editor

- The pathogens addressed in this plan cause the decline and death of susceptible plants, and require management. However, many plant fungi and moulds occur naturally in soil and plants, and are an important part of functioning ecosystems.
- Pathogen control is an important issue for the entire community to be aware of and work together in addressing. The community plays an important part in keeping our urban forest healthy, by using pasteurised mulch and buying plants from nurseries accredited under the Nursery Industry Accreditation Scheme Australia (NIASA). The use of raw green waste as mulch or plants bought from roadside stalls is discouraged as it has a high potential to be contaminated with diseases, as well as introduce unwanted weeds.