

Questions & Answers

Permit for removal of fire affected trees

Do I need a permit?

Yes. You need a permit titled 'Authorisation for landholder (or nominee) to fell and/or remove trees in a public road corridor' if you wish to remove or alter a tree in a fire affected area.

Can I remove any trees?

No. The permit:

- Covers fire affected zones within the Wakefield Regional Council area;
- Relates only to trees adjoining your property (or a property for which you have the written approval of the owner to remove the trees);
- Requires compliance with native vegetation legislation and regulations – refer 'Native trees in burnt areas' fact sheet.

From which roads can I remove the trees?

Only from unsealed (low traffic) roads within declared fire areas within the Wakefield Regional Council area.

What about main roads like Traeger Rd?

The Department of Planning, Transport & Infrastructure is responsible for many main roads in the area and has its own program for tree management.

What do I need to provide to Council to get the permit?

First, you need to ensure the permit form is filled out and you have all necessary evidence of permissions and insurances to show Council staff.

Council *may* grant the permit subject to the applicant:

- Agreeing to the conditions outlined in the permit;
- Providing to Council evidence of all insurances to cover this activity;
- Sighting written permission of the land owner (when this is not the applicant) for the applicant to alter/remove the trees.

Is there a fee?

No.

I'm a commercial fire wood business – can I remove the trees?

Only if you have the written permission of the landholder and complete the permit process.

How do I get a permit?

You can download a permit from our website wrc.sa.gov.au, call us on 8862 0800 or visit the Council office in Scotland Place, Balaklava. Council must sight certain documents as part of that process.

Is this just for fire trees?

Yes. For removing or altering trees in other roadways, please look for our general Section 221 permit (available on the Council website). Strict native vegetation management rules are in place and you should visit environment.sa.gov.au for more information.

Is this just for the area affected by the Pinery fire?

No. A permit *may* be issued for any fire affected area within the Wakefield Regional Council area.

How is this permit different to Council's general Section 221 permit?

This permit is specifically for land owners (or their nominees) to undertake tree removal or alterations in fire affected areas.

What insurances do I need?

You must have written evidence of public liability insurance that covers the activity of removing vegetation from the roadside. This should include the insurance certificate and policy terms that clearly state this activity is covered. Please contact your insurer if you are uncertain.

What about trees in other areas not affected by the fire?

For removing or altering trees in other roadways, please look for our general Section 221 permit (available on the Council website). Strict native vegetation management rules are in place and you should visit environment.sa.gov.au for more information.

What other reading do I need to do?

It is important you read the fact sheet 'Native trees in burnt areas' available on our website wrc.sa.gov.au. The Department for Environment & Water has a range of information about roadside vegetation – visit environment.sa.gov.au for more information.

How long does the permit last?

The 'proposed term of the authorisation' should be indicated on the front of the permit form. That is, you can specify the period for which you wish to undertake the activity.

Can I remove the trees during the Bushfire season?

Please refer to the CFS website for information about the fire danger season, bans and information relating to allowable activities.

Where can I get more information?

For information about the permits, please contact Wakefield Regional Council:

Email admin@sa.gov.au

Phone 8862 0800

Website wrc.sa.gov.au

For information about native vegetation please contact the Department for Environment & Water or visit the website environment.sa.gov.au.