



EVERGREEN TREE SERVICES

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ATTN: Claire Cavanaugh
SUBJ: Tree Report as requested....24 Delecta Ave Clareville
DATE: 3 Apr 18

Dear Claire,

Thank you for your recent request for a tree report at the above address.

I show below my observations and recommendations as per the VTA guidelines listed.
Any questions, please contact me at any time.

Thanks again and kind regards,

Ron Atkins
Proprietor/Manager
EVERGREEN TREE SERVICES (estab 1972)
Practicing Arborists since 1995

VISUAL TREE ASSESSMENT... Values Guidelines

Basic assessment guidelines are attached separately, however for this exercise, I show below the risk value grid pertinent to your job/work profiles.

Risk Factor 1.

Indicates the tree in question, has a **HIGH** risk of failure or damage to property due to the factors involved at the particular site. **Removal is recommended.**

Risk Factor 2.

Indicates the tree in question, has a **MEDIUM** risk of failure or damage due to the factors involved at the particular site. Some remedial root pruning and branch thinning may be required, along with trace element fertilisation.

Risk Factor 3.

Indicates the tree in question, has a **LOW** risk of failure or damage due to factors involved at the particular site. Some remedial branch thinning and pruning may be required, along with trace element fertilisation.

The assessments are conditional on factors observable and occurring at the time of inspection and are NOT predictive of any on-going conditions affecting the specimen in the future.

VISUAL TREE ASSESSMENT...An overview and guidelines

Introduction

The system has been developed over several years to provide a robust methodology for the assessment and management of tree failure risk. Using a probabilistic approach to tree safety management, the system is in line with the principles commonly applied to the management of industrial risk, workplace risk and wider ranging environmental risks.

Current Tree Safety Management is prediction based and often the expectation of property managers is that the tree surveyor or inspector will provide assurances that a tree is or is not, safe. When trees fail and cause harm a question is often asked is 'was the failure foreseeable?' The ultimate failure of all trees is certain but other than extreme cases of tree instability, arborists can estimate the probability of a tree failing within a given time and can evaluate the targets upon which trees can fail. It is these skills that are harnessed by Quantified Tree Risk Assessment and Visual Tree Assessment to enable reasonable tree safety management.

Limitations

It is possible to calculate the frequency of vehicular and pedestrian targets upon which trees could fail. It is also possible to estimate the value of repairs to structures that could be damaged in the event of tree failure. The probability of tree failure itself can be estimated as can the potential impact from a falling tree or branch on the basis of comparative weights in relation to branch or stem diameter.

The Quantified Tree Risk Assessment system is based on these and other mainly estimated values and whilst the system is numerically self-consistent, the Risk of Harm outcomes are a reflection of observations made by tree surveyors, tree inspectors, and land managers. The system provides a methodology for the probabilistic assessment of risks from tree failure.

Although the system provides a recognised threshold for acceptable risk, it is not predictive and will not provide a numerical line for safe or unsafe trees.

Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) (Barrell-1995)

The information derived from the visual inspection of the tree is used to determine the SULE rating. This rating gives an estimate of the expected life span of the tree and takes into account age, life span of the species, local environmental conditions, location, and tree safety.

The SULE rating is an assessment of the tree at the time of inspection. This rating may change due to local environmental changes or extreme occurrences such as a storm.

Safe Useful Life Expectancy (S.U.L.E.) table.

Category Description

1. Long, life span greater than 40 years
2. Medium, life span from 15 to 40 years
3. Short, life span from 5 to 15 years
4. Remove, should be removed within 5 years
5. Small, Young or regularly pruned, trees that can be readily moved or replaced
6. Unstable, showing imminent signs of structural failure, unstable in the ground, significant trunk damage rendering the tree structurally hazardous.

The Specimens Under Review....Comments, Observations & Recommendations....VTA Risk Factor 3.....S.U.L.E rating 1.

Observations and Recommendation(s)...24 Delecta Ave Clareville.

This site has large mature eucalyptus mahogany (*eucalyptus botryoides*) located adjacent to a recently constructed studio cabin in the front yard of the property.

The tree is approx. 30 metres in height, a lateral spread of approx. 18 metres and a basal trunk diameter of approx. 0.9 mtr.

This tree is a medium mature specimen, demonstrating a reasonably well balanced frame, full and robust blooming and crown, with minimal deadwood, tissue damage, borer or insect attack.

There is no evidence of the tree showing growth stress or instability in situ.

Overall, the tree is in good and robust health with strong potential for further longevity.

The tree is subject to a report regarding the possible effects or otherwise, of a pending construction of a new driveway leading from the present concrete apron to the car park platform.

The present paving which is to be removed, is situated on a shallow concrete slab which has been in situ for some years. The proposed construction will have minimal impact of the roots of the tree in situ and additionally, as the earlier shallow concrete slab has not affected the progress or nature of the eucalypt, it is determined the tree will not have any major issues via the proposed construction.

Recommendation is given however, to the erection of a tree protection barrier, approx. 2 metres in height, in a triangular form, 1.5mtrs from the trunk of the tree, to eliminate the possibility of damage, scarring or bruising of the bark/sapwood of the tree trunk.

A follow up fertilisation application to the drip line zone is recommended, within 7 days of the completion of works.



Tree guard in situ

Paving to be removed and replaced with concrete driveway,

This report is prepared & presented without favour or prejudice to any third parties, public utilities, authorities or interested persons aligned with the property in review and any comments or recommendations are determined by the factors present at the time of inspection.



Ron Atkins

Proprietor,

EVERGREEN TREE SERVICES..estab 1972

Practicing Arborists sine 1995

(In conj with Paul Miller...Dip Arb tech, Cert V Hort)



Paul Miller

References

Coder, Kim D. 1996. Construction Damage Assessments: Trees and Sites. University of Georgia.

Costello, L.R. and Susan D. Day. 2004. A New Look at the Impact and Management of Fill Soil around Trees, pp. 25-29. Arborist News. August 2004.

Craul, P.J. 1999. Urban Soils: Applications and Practices. John Wiley and Sons, New York.

Cue, K.P., S. Josiah. 2002. Landscaping around established trees. Retrieved June 15, 2005 from NebGuide Website: <http://ianrpubs.unl.edu/forestry/g1452.htm>. -

Tony Russell & Catherine Cutler – Lorenze Books

Harris W. Clark, James R. Mattheney Nelda P. (2004), Arboriculture Integrated Management of Landscape Trees, Shrubs and Vines. Prentice Hall – New Jersey USA.

Tree Contractors Association of Australia

Other Information..

Limitations on use of this report:

This report is to be utilized in its entirety only. Any written or verbal submission, report or presentation that includes statements taken from the findings, discussions, conclusions or recommendations made in this report, may only be used where the whole of the original report (or a copy) is referenced in, and directly attached to that submission, report or presentation.

ASSUMPTIONS

Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible: however, Naturally Trees can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.

Unless stated otherwise:

- Information contained in this report covers only those trees that were examined and reflects the condition of those trees at time of inspection: and*
- The inspection was limited to visual examination of the subject trees without dissection, excavation, probing or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the subject trees may not arise in the future.*

Limit of Observations

There are many factors that may contribute to limb or total tree failure. Factors include, decay (in the trunk, crown or branch junctions), external damage to branches leading to decay, poor branch taper, included bark, root rot / decay. Not all these symptoms are visible i.e. internal decay; of these some external symptoms may indicate the presence of dead internal wood but not the existence or extent of decay.

The most solid looking piece of timber may be riddled with breaks in continuity of growth caused by insect damage or poor pruning practices many years previous. Trees do not heal; they simply box in the damaged area (**CODIT** Compartmentalisation of Decay in Trees) and continue to expand in girth, completely disguising the fact that the branch or trunk has a hollow or decayed section. Having said this, not all areas of decay, past or present suggests a point of failure.

Only sophisticated equipment i.e. Resitograph ® or Tomograph ® can detect the existence of decay or compartments within a trees' branch or trunk. The use of this highly technical equipment is expensive and is usually required when a dispute over the soundness of a tree part is made. Caution must be practice when using a Resitograph as the method requires drilling through boundary walls within the tree and may in fact contribute to the continuance of the decaying organism

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Dimensions: All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise indicated. Measurements taken with a tape or clinometer are indicated with a '*'. Less reliable estimated dimensions are indicated with a '?'.

- Species:** I based the species identification on my visual observations and have placed '?' after the name of a tree where I have some doubt over its identity.
- Height:** Height is estimated to the nearest metre.
- Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter is estimated at 1.3m above ground level and recorded in centimetres. If appropriate, it has been measured with a diameter tape. Trees that have multiple stems are indicated with 'M'.
- Maturity:** Tree maturity has been assessed as OVER MATURE (last one third of life expectancy), MATURE (one third to two thirds life expectancy) and YOUNG (less than one third life expectancy).
- Vigour:** This is an indication of the health of the tree for use with Table 1 of BS 5837. Trees have either been assessed as N = normal vigour or L = low vigour in line with that table.
- Retention category:** See retention category descriptions on the following page.
- Notes:** This column records any relevant features that may help clarify the retention category allocation.

AUTHOR'S QUALIFICATIONS

Ron Atkins: Evergreen Tree Services

- Commenced Tree Service Operations in Northern Sydney in January 1972.
 - Employed up to 8 employees at any one time within 45 years of operations.
 - Attained Tree Surgery & Insect Control Certification from NSW Forestry Commission via Prof. Phil Hadlington & Prof. Ted Taylor 1977.
 - Assisted Warringah Shire Council to establish a Tree Preservation Order & Procedures manual 1979.
 - Safety Education and Chain Saw operations supplier to RFS (Rural Fire Service) Northern Sydney 1980-1983.
 - Attained many and varied certifications for Tree Management Services via various Federal, State and Local Government institutions 1980 – 2005
 - Attained Dip Arb tech, Cert 111 Hort 2001 via Australian College of Applied Sciences Western Sydney.
 - Foundation member and past President of Australian Tree Contractors Association 1985 – present.
 - Member LGTRA (Local Government Tree Resources Association) 1996 – 2004.
 - Singular supplier of Tree Management Services to DHA (Defence Housing Authority) 1986 – 2000.
 - Supplier of Tree Management Services to Dept Education and NSW Health Services since 1980 – present.
 - Singular supplier of Tree Management Services to Interflow (Sydney Water Inc) since 2009.
 - Author/supplier of Tree Assessment and Management Reports for clients within many local councils within Sydney.
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Paul Miller: Urban Forest Pty Ltd.

- Commenced Tree Management Operations 1985.
 - Founded Forest Tree Services 1988.
 - Contractor to Manly Council 1988 – 2000.
 - Completed Diploma of Arboricultural Techniques at Ryde TAFE 2000.
 - Foundation Member Australian Tree Contractors Association.
 - Founder J&K Tree services with over 25 employees and turnover of \$2.5m+ 2001.
 - Singular Contractors to Transgrid, Parramatta & Blue Mountains Council 2000 – 2003
 - Attained Dip Arb tech, Cert V Hort 2001 via Australian College of Applied Sciences Western Sydney.
 - Contracted to Abbie Leighton joint venture clearing M2 & M7 motorway plus consulting on removal of all wildlife pre tree removal 2001.
 - Primary Tree Contractor and Consultant to Wingecarribee Shire Council 2004 – 2006.
 - Managed many Tree Companies including Trusted Tree Services, Tree National, King Of Trees 2006 - 2014. Currently Director of Urban Forest Pty Ltd.
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