

# Managing Dangerous Trees

A range of environmental factors and natural disasters can all lead to trees falling or posing a risk to property. There are a number of things you can do if you discover a dangerous tree.

## WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I THINK A ROADSIDE TREE IS DANGEROUS?

If the tree is on a roadside or public reserve, lodge a works request either through Council's website or by phoning Council. Provide as much information as possible about the location of the tree.

Council has a limited budget to remove dangerous trees across the roads network each year and the budget is reserved for trees which are a danger to the travelling public. Council staff will assess the risk using Council's *'Tree Rating Procedure for Dangerous Trees on Council Owned or Controlled Land'*. Works are prioritised according to the risk rating if the tree is determined to be dangerous.



What do I do if I need to clear roadside trees to allow for fence construction?

Clearing on the roadside is prohibited without Council approval.

Conditions to clear for fence construction is set under Council's *'Tree Removal and Pruning in Public Places Policy'*. If you would like to clear for fence construction call Council to arrange an inspection and obtain a permit from the Environment Coordinator.



What do I do if a tree has fallen on the road?

If a tree has fallen on the road (either from the road reserve or from the adjoining property) phone Council as soon as possible. Council will attend the site and move the tree into a safe place.

If the tree has fallen but is not a risk to the travelling public, lodge a works request with Council online or over the phone. Note the fallen tree may be left within the road reserve to provide habitat for wildlife.



What do I do if a roadside tree has fallen across my fence?

If the tree has fallen from the roadside reserve you can lodge a works request with Council to move the tree.

If the tree has fallen from the adjoining property then it is the property owner's responsibility to move the tree if needed.

Regardless of where the tree fell from the repair of the fence is the responsibility and at the expense of the property owner.



What do I do if a tree has fallen on private property?

It is the property owner's responsibility to undertake any management actions necessary when a tree falls within private property.



What do I do if I need to clear vegetation (alive or dead) on my private property?

Contact the Central Tablelands Local Land Service on 6378 1700 to discuss any clearing requirements on private property.

Alternatively, you can visit their website for more information:  
[lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/central-tablelands](https://ls.nsw.gov.au/regions/central-tablelands)



Can I remove fallen timber within the road reserve?

No, under the Local Government Act 1998 you cannot remove fallen timber from within the road reserve as this is retained for wildlife habitat. Fines up to \$2,200 apply for removing vegetation (dead or alive) from roadside and public reserves without approval.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit Council's website [midwestern.nsw.gov.au](https://midwestern.nsw.gov.au)  
Council's Environmental Team are available to assist on 6378 2939.

**DISCLAIMER** | The information contained in this fact sheet is general in nature and should not be relied upon as the complete source of information to be considered. This document is not intended as a substitute for consulting relevant legislation or for obtaining appropriate professional advice relevant to your particular circumstances.

Reference: [environment.nsw.gov.au](https://environment.nsw.gov.au)