

2.35 Collection of Firewood from Council Road Reserves and Dead Standing Trees

POLICY TITLE: COLLECTION OF FIREWOOD FROM COUNCIL ROAD RESERVES AND DEAD STANDING TREES
FILE REF: SC67; SC339
EXPIRY DATE: JUNE 2026

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this policy is to define the manner in which dead wood may be collected from road reserves for residential heating purposes and the removal of dead standing trees from Council road reserves for this same purpose.

POLICY STATEMENT

Council is mindful of the need to permit some collection of firewood for residential purposes as a means of maintaining Council's road reserves in a tidy manner. However, Council is also mindful that dead standing trees provide crucial habitat in food, nesting hollows, perching places and forage for birds and mammals including some of Australia's threatened and dwindling ecological communities and wildlife species.

For these reasons Council regulates the collection of firewood throughout the road reserves under its control in accordance with the following:

1. Dead standing trees on Council reserves and road reserves are prohibited from removal.
2. Council will not permit the collection of firewood from its road reserves by professional wood suppliers.
3. That on application from private individuals seeking to collect firewood from Council's road reserves for their own personal use, Council may approve such an application based on:
 - a. whether the applicant is a resident of the Shire; and
 - b. the nominated road being of low or no conservation value.
4. Applicants must address an application for permit to the General Manager, with successful applicants receiving a permit remaining valid for up to three (3) months, and allowing the collection of up to two (2) single-axle loads (or equivalent) of firewood.
5. An applicant may only apply for one (1) collection permit per financial year.
6. Council delegates authority to the General Manager to approve such applications; the General Manager may sub-delegate this authority to the Director of Engineering.

This policy will be reviewed within twelve (12) months of the next Council election.

Reviewed by Council 19 June 2023

*Adopted by Council 20 April 2020
Refer Minute: 64/20*

*Adopted by Council 16 February 2015
Refer Minute: 35/15*

*Adopted by Council 17 August 2009
Refer minute 283/09*

*Adopted by Council – 18 December 2006
Refer Minute No. 431/06*