

Vegetation Management Policy

This Policy aims to ensure that a high standard of vegetation management is achieved and that the protection of existing native and exotic vegetation is promoted.

To achieve the aim of this Policy:

- preserve, manage and enhance vegetation to maximise the benefits to the community whilst minimising associated risks and costs;
- maintain the biodiversity and natural values of coastal, river and native bushland reserves;
- provide vegetation management that is consistent with the *Central Coast Planning Scheme 2005*;
- ensure vegetation is managed to a high standard using best practice;
- manage vegetation as part of the overall *Risk Management Policy 2008*;
- manage vegetation to protect habitat for native fauna;
- prevent unnecessary removal of vegetation;
- vegetation will be protected from development;
- the conflicting requirements of trees and infrastructure will be minimised where possible;
- ensure vegetation is managed cost effectively;
- weeds will be managed effectively and the *Municipal Weed Management Plan 2007* will be implemented; and
- the community will be consulted and informed about all major projects involving vegetation removal, tree planting, and pest and disease management.

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GENERAL MANAGER

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