

From: [Rick](#)
To: [DPTI:Planning Reform Submissions](#)
Subject: Tree issues.
Date: Wednesday, 26 February 2020 1:25:54 PM

State Planning Commission,

I appreciate preserving trees in most cases, but there should be no blanket rule to preserve all trees under all circumstances. Nor should there be there no control whatsoever in the planting of any tree in any location. Consideration must be given to the danger trees pose to people living, playing, or working around them. So, if anyone notices that a tree appears to be becoming dangerous or unstable there should be some reasonably simple way to have the tree assessed by properly qualified persons, and presently that is not an Arborist, for its removal.

In South Australia most councils require an assessment from an Arborist. Presently, councils are frustrated with an industry that is unregulated. South Australia has no Arborist's qualification requirement. There are some Australian states that do have training that leads to a certificate and the National Government has these details:

<https://training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC30810>

However, none of these have in their curriculum any structural engineering component and that deficiency has killed people and will continue to kill people unless fixed. Is that really good enough?

There have been 2 deaths where Arborists have assessed trees to be safe that only weeks later have collapsed and killed people. One was Rebecca Jolly who was killed by a eucalyptus tree on Greenhill Rd, Hazelwood Park in January 2010, and another was an academic, Allison Milner in Princes Park, Melbourne in August 2019.

I have an example of a dangerous tree that is a half-grown eucalyptus tree with the potential to grow to a height of 50 metres planted at the corner of a property that adjoins 3 other properties and on an easement on top of a 50 year old 1 metre diameter ferro-concrete storm water drain that has now reached the maximum rated load for the drain at manufacture and that has started to show signs of collapse that will not last much longer. This tree is just over my back fence and in range of several children's bed rooms. The Burnside Council wish to preserve that tree regardless of the danger.

R Matthews, B. Eng