

TREES AND STORMS

Certain tree types planted in close proximity to buildings can pose a significant hazard and risk of damage in the event of a severe storm. Generally tall trees with high crowns should not be planted in near vicinity to houses or other buildings due to the potential for such trees to fall or lose heavy limbs during severe storms or weather events.

Disease such as fungal infection can also weaken root systems and increase the risk of failure. Disease is commonly caused by outside influences such as poor pruning methods or root damage during driveway construction and soil build up over existing root systems for new gardens. All too often, the symptoms of root disease are not obvious to an untrained eye.

Should it be necessary to plant trees near buildings, smaller shade trees are recommended such as:

Banksia integrifolia (Coastal Banksia)
Pandanus sp (Pandanus)
Drypetes deplanchii (Yellow Tulip)
Callistemon viminalis (Weeping Bottlebrush)
Grevillia banksii (Red flowered Silky Oak)
Buckinghamia celcissima (Ivory Curl Flower)
Backhousia citridora (Lemon Myrtle)
Randia fitzalanii (Native Gardenia)
Austromyrtus bidwillii (Python Tree)
Michelia champaca (Yellow Jade Orchid Tree)
Dracaena marginata (Dragontree)
Plumeria obtusa (Frangipani)

It is also worth noting that many plants that are usually sold as shrubs can be gradually trained to become small trees. Some examples are:

Eugenia reinwardtiana	Melaleuca Snowflake
Syzygium wilsonii	Leptospermum brachyandrum
Metrosideros excelsa	

Depending on the aspect of the house, Citrus, Jaboticaba, Mulberry and other fruit trees might also be suitable.

Before establishing any plants near homes or buildings, advice should be sought from a Nursery or Horticulturist.