

Planning and Infrastructure

December 2015

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Tree root barriers

Some tree roots, in their search for moisture, may cause considerable amounts of damage to paving, buildings and underground services if they are planted too close to these structures.

Use of root barriers can be used for new or existing plantings and will help prevent damage to paved areas. When used on existing plantings root and canopy pruning may be needed as well.

The [Where not to plant](#) fact sheet states that trees should not be planted near buildings or paving. However, if root barriers are required you should seek advice from a qualified arborist as there are different products and methods of installation available.

OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Installation of root barriers should be considered when assessing maintenance of existing trees and planning future landscaping projects.