

News Release



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New trees under power lines improve pruning prospects

EnergyAustralia and local councils are working together on a tree replacement program to improve the appearance of key streets in Forestville and North Narrabeen.

Tree specialists from Warringah Council, Pittwater Council and EnergyAustralia have agreed to replace a number of trees in Cook Street, Forestville and Gondola Road, North Narrabeen which are unsuitable for planting under powerlines.

Local residents have been notified of the tree replacement program via a letterbox drop.

EnergyAustralia Arborist Salena Knight said regular trimming of trees under powerlines was essential to help deliver a safe and reliable power supply to local homes and businesses.

"If trees grow into power lines, they can cause blackouts. EnergyAustralia must prune trees regularly to maintain minimum clearance distances between tree branches and power lines to help keep the power on to local homes," Ms Knight said.

"Some trees don't respond well to regular trimming and end up losing their shape and appeal, which is the case in these two streets.

"By replacing the existing trees with smaller, more suitable native trees that will only need minimal pruning, it will help improve the amenity of the streets in the longer term."

On Friday 23 November, 12 Brushbox trees will be removed from Cook Street, Forestville and Warringah Council will replace them with native bottlebrushes at a later date.

On the following Friday 30 November, 13 She-oaks along Gondola Road, North Narrabeen will be removed with Pittwater Council replanting more suitable trees such as Lilly Pillies in their place.

"We know some local residents have been concerned about the shape of the existing trees which is why we were so keen to work with local councils to develop replanting plans," Ms Knight said.

"It's important to strike a balance that keeps trees clear of powerlines to minimise interruptions while preserving the visual appeal of local streets. We're confident this tree replacement program will achieve that. "

EnergyAustralia said it was always keen to work with local councils to provide advice and help develop programs to plant appropriate trees under power lines.

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