

Tree Incentive Program 2025

Species Selection Guide

The Tree Incentive Vouchers can be used to purchase tree species that meet the following criteria:

- a tree that will be planted in the ground;
- a long-lived tree species (at least 20 years);
- a tree species can grow to at least three (3) meters in height; and
- a tree species that provides shade when the sun is at its highest point (e.g., round, spreading, oval, open, weeping form).

The following are some suggested options, however staff at the participating nurseries will be able to help you select an appropriate tree that meets the above criteria and is suitable for your property.

1. SA Blackwood

Acacia melanoxylon

A large, attractive, shade tree with dark brown wood. A hard tree with many pale yellow flowers in cluster from late winter to early spring.

Not suitable for narrow streetscapes, under power lines or close to pipes or drains.

Height: 7-18m

Canopy spread: 4-10m

Life span: 150+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/3433>

2. Jacaranda

Jacaranda mimosifolia

*Non-native (South America)

Medium to large tree. An elegant sub-tropical tree that produces clusters of fragrant purple flowers in summer. An excellent choice for providing shade with its dense fern-like leaves. A common street tree in Adelaide.

Height: 8-10m

Canopy spread: 8-10m

Life span: 50-100 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/3590>

3. Coast Banksia

Banksia integrifolia

Medium-large tree suited to coastal areas and sandy soils. It is fast growing, distinctive for its size, long green leaves with a silver underside and iconic gold flower spikes. Not suitable for narrow streetscapes, under power lines or close to pipes or drains.

Height: 7-15m

Canopy spread: 5-10m

Life expectancy: 50-100 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/885>

4. Water Gum

Tristaniopsis laurina

Medium tree. A popular, low-maintenance shade tree for gardens with smooth, light grey bark and large, lush, deep green leaves. Scented yellow flowers in summer can attract birds and butterflies. Enjoys fair amount of water.

Height: 6-8m

Canopy spread: 4-5m

Life span: 100+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/112>



City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters

5. Dwarf SA Blue Gum

'Euky Dwarf' Eucalyptus leucoxylon

Native Australian tree. Small to medium native tree. Perfect for smaller gardens where a standard SA Blue gum would be too large. An excellent shade tree to help cool a hot garden. Clusters of cream or pinkish-red flowers from autumn to spring.

Height: 6-7m

Canopy spread: 4-5m

Life span: 200+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/17862>

6. Tuckeroo

Cupaniopsis anacardioides

Native Australian tree

Medium tree. An attractive, hardy and reliable tree with rounded shape and evergreen leaves. Cream flowers in autumn and bright orange fruit in spring.

Height: 7-8 m

Canopy spread: 4-5m

Life span: 50-60 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/823>

7. Silver Banksia

Banksia marginata

Medium to small. A hardy and versatile native suitable for coastal locations. Dense foliage make it a an attractive shrub or small tree with long green leaves bearing silver underside. Attracts native birds and insects for food source and habitat.

Height: 1- 8m

Canopy spread: 1-5m

Life span: 100+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/2939>

8. Cottonwood

Hibiscus tiliaceus

Medium to small tree. Dense evergreen tree with attractive dark green leaves and bright yellow Hibiscus flowers. A spreading crown makes for an excellent shade or screening. Can tolerate full coastal exposure as well as poor draining soils.

Height: 4-8m

Canopy spread: 3-4m

Life span: 25+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/2939>

9. Bottlebrush - Gawler Hybrid

Callistemon 'Harkness'

Small tree. A beautiful domed shaped tree with weeping branches and red bottlebrush flowers in autumn and spring.

Height: 5-6 m

Canopy spread: 3-4 m

Life span: 20-40 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/17807>

10. White Crepe Myrtle

Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei 'Natchez'

*Non-native (Eastern Asia)

Small to medium tree. A popular ornamental deciduous tree with dark green foliage turning orange to red during autumn. Produces large displays of white flowering blooms throughout summer, which can attract birds and butterflies.

Height: 5-6m

Canopy spread: 4-5m

Life span: 25 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/457>

11. London Plane Tree

Platanus x acerifolia

Large to very large tree. Ornamental deciduous shady trees. The flaking grey jigsaw patterned bark is a feature. Common street tree.

Height: 20-25m

Canopy spread: 18-20m

Lifespan: 200+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/17914>

12. Chinese Elm

Ulmus parvifolia

Medium Tree. Hardy elm from China. Ornamental deciduous tree that provides shade. Common street tree.

Height: 8-10m

Canopy spread: 9-11m

Lifespan: 50-150 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/17960>

13. Willow myrtle

Agonis flexuosa

Small Tree. Distinguished by its brilliant burgundy to purple foliage. An excellent contrast plant.

Height: 3-5m

Canopy spread: 2.5-3m

Lifespan: 100+ years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/602>

14. Magnolia

Magnolia grandiflora

Medium tree. Evergreen with rich glossy leaves and large creamy white fragrant flowers in summer.

Height: 4-8m

Canopy spread: 2-5m

Lifespan: 25-50 years

<https://plantselector.botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/Plants/Details/17898>