



## Advice on Choosing a Tree Contractor

Ku-ring-gai Council does not maintain a register or make specific recommendations regarding tree contractors for arboricultural work.

Contact a professional Tree Contractor that is a member of the Tree Contractors Association to ensure that you use a professional fully qualified and insured tree contractor to undertake works on your tree. Refer to the Tree Contractors Association website and click on the link 'Find an Arborist' [www.tcaa.com.au](http://www.tcaa.com.au)

Tree work is an inherently dangerous operation. As such, it is strongly recommended that you engage individuals with appropriate qualifications and relevant demonstrated competence in tree pruning and removal operations.

The following list provides advice for consideration when choosing a Tree Contractor to undertake works on your property:

- Obtain a minimum of three (3) written quotes
- Sight the contractor's Public Liability Insurance Certificate and Worker's Compensation Certificate (Public Liability Insurance should be for a minimum of \$20million)
- Check contractor's qualifications and industry associations. A contractor should have at least a formal qualification in Arboriculture (AQF Level 2) and/or preferably should have an AQF Level 3 qualification
- Ask for references or recommendations from previous clients
- Agree on the extent of work to be undertaken
- Obtain a written quote that includes details of all proposed work and includes business name and ABN, contact details and costs.
- Pay contractor only upon satisfactory completion of the work
- Familiarise yourself with Council's DCP – Part 13 Tree and Vegetation guidelines and discuss with the contractor.

Fair Trading NSW recommends that you protect yourself from travelling conmen and complaints and be suspicious of people who:

- Turn up unexpectedly offering special one-off or today-only deals
- Ask for cash up-front
- Offer to drive you to the bank to get money for payment
- Pressure you into accepting their offer
- Disappear and leave the job unfinished or in a poor standard

Contact Fair Trading [www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au) or call 13 32 20

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