

# Tips for caring for your street tree

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has recently planted a tree outside your home as part of Council's annual planting program.

The following tips outline the ways you can help care for your new street tree:

#### Watering

During the hot dry months, your tree will need extra water once or twice a week for the first three seasons of its life. Please fill the water saver up to at least two thirds full with water from a bucket or hose. This will help your tree grow and develop into a strong and healthy street tree.

#### Weed control

Avoid the growth of weeds at the base of your tree, as they use valuable water and nutrients in the ground. You can place a layer of mulch or lawn clippings over the roots, but ensure that no mulch is built up around the trunk as this can contribute to disease.

# **Private planting**

Please don't plant additional plants at the base as many of these are vigorous and will steal moisture and nutrients.

## Fertilising

There is no need to fertilise your tree. At the time of planting your tree was given a slow release fertiliser which will keep it going.

## Mowing and maintenance

Try to avoid damage to the trunk when mowing or whipper-snipping as this will create a wound, enabling fungi and diseases to enter the trees system.

## **Damaged tree**

Please let us know if your tree is stressed or damaged so we can respond accordingly. Report any issues by calling 5422 0333 or via email on mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

