

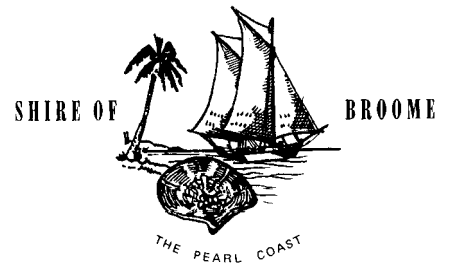
## Shire of Broome

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# Media Release



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For immediate release

## Vandals Strike Again

Street trees along Reid Road have continued to be targeted by vandals with the latest spate of damage taking place within the past week.

In three attacks in as many months, some 25 *Eucalyptus Ptychocarpa* saplings on Reid Road between Banu Avenue and Hay Road have had their trunks snapped.

A *Maringa* at the Reid Road roundabout has also been stripped of its leaves and irreparably damaged.

Shire Manager of Operations Kent Williams said no sooner does the Shire re-plant trees along Reid Road, vandals snap the new plantings.

“This vandalism is very frustrating,” he said. “We have had to replace a number of trees along Reid Road at least three times.”

“We are trying to create a corridor of native trees to increase shade and the visual amenity of the area. Unfortunately members of our community are taking delight in destroying these young gum trees.”

“With labour and materials it costs about \$50 to replace each tree.”

“We urge the community to keep an eye out along Reid Road and report any suspicious behaviour to the police or the Shire,” said Mr Williams.

The young gum trees originally replaced mature Neem trees which the Shire removed last year. Despite their size, Neem trees are considered a weed and easily spread into native bushland.

ENDS

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