

Email from WCA to Nerilee Kerslake, Senior Environmental Officer, Vic Roads and copied to local politicians & councillors

Sent: Monday, 11 January 2010 at 3:13pm

Subject: Trees overhanging Vic Roads in North Warrandyte

Importance: High

Dear Nerilee,

You may be aware that the Warrandyte Community Association held three very well attended meetings last year which considered various issues and potential problems in relation to bushfires and emergency access. One ongoing concern is trees dangerously overhanging Vic Roads, especially the main Warrandyte Research Road which could block access in an emergency, particularly a bushfire.

Max Garner raised this issue with illustrative photos on a number of occasions last year (30 September, 5 & 10 October). We note that Vic Roads has responded by removing dead trees particularly in the stretch between Mount Pleasant and Stoney Creek Roads, and we thank you for that. There are however many other instances of overhanging trees and branches which could pose a hazard. (Google maps shows an aerial view but I am unsure when the images were taken). A particular hazard are the trees overhanging the footpath between Banning Road and Hawkes Rd. These force pedestrians, and especially cyclists and mothers with prams, on to the road, a hazard under any circumstances, and conflicting with WCA promotion of foot and bicycle paths.

Whilst the WCA supports maintaining the Green Wedge, it is important that major routes are cleared of obvious hazards. Given the onset of the fire season with Victoria's first 'Code Red', WCA members would appreciate action by Vic Roads to remove obvious hazards.

Kind Regards

Dick Davies

President

Warrandyte Community Association Inc.

www.warrandyte.org.au