

## MEDIA RELEASE



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TasNetworks  
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### **TasNetworks helping to prevent bushfires**

With bushfire season fast approaching, TasNetworks is reminding people that trees growing too close to powerlines are a safety risk, with the potential to cause fires, cut electricity supply and potentially leave wires on the ground.

Bushfire Mitigation Manager, Michael Emmett said that while our vegetation management program is successful in helping to prevent highly dangerous situations, we also rely on public information to assist in identifying vegetation posing a risk.

“Bushfires can cost lives, hurt communities, and cause millions of dollars of damage to electrical infrastructure and to private property. They also have a severe impact on the reliability of power supply to customers,” Mr Emmett said.

“It’s everyone’s responsibility to be safe around electricity, so it’s important that home owners and occupiers ensure trees on their property are well clear of distribution powerlines all year round.

“If customers see trees or vegetation that are too close, or if there’s a risk of branches falling on powerlines, please contact TasNetworks on 132 004,” Mr Emmett said.

Customers are encouraged to get advice from their local nursery when planting trees and shrubs on their property, to ensure they select species that will not impact on any nearby powerlines.

TasNetworks is committed to putting the safety of our people and customers first and educating the community about electrical safety issues is a vital element of our community safety obligation.

For more information about trees around powerlines and safe growing practices please visit [www.tasnetworks.com.au](http://www.tasnetworks.com.au) or call TasNetworks on 132 004.