



Media Release

14 June 2018

Hefty fine for damage to Treeby nature reserve

A 19-year-old Leeming man has been fined \$800 and ordered to pay \$968 reparation to the City of Cockburn after he pleaded guilty in court to damaging gates and fences at Rose Shanks Reserve in Treeby early this year.

Constable Darren Igglesden from Cockburn Police said a 30-year-old Forrestfield man also charged with allegedly causing \$500 damage at the reserve, failed to appear at Fremantle Magistrates Court on 8 June.

A bench warrant has now been issued for his arrest.

The charges were laid with the assistance of footage captured on covert CCTV cameras operated remotely by the City of Cockburn.

City of Cockburn Environment Manager Chris Beaton said cameras were placed in the Jandakot Regional Park in an effort to catch repeat offenders.

Trespassers were costing ratepayers thousands of dollars in repair bills, crushing flora in a significant banksia restoration area, disturbing nearby landowners, local wildlife and degrading the landscape.

Banksia Eucalypt Woodland in the Rose Shanks Reserve is a listed Threatened Ecological Community by the Federal Department of Environment and Energy and penalties apply for unauthorised clearing.

Trespass and damage incidents are not isolated at council-managed reserves. It is estimated in the past three years, fence and gate repairs due to criminal damage has cost ratepayers more than \$60,000 a year.

People with any information about this or any other trespass, damage or dumping crimes in the City can call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or speak to Environmental Services at Cockburn council on 9411 3444.



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