

CAMPASPE SHIRE COUNCIL  
**MEDIA RELEASE**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 13 July 2017

**LANDSCAPE ASSISTANCE TO RURAL LANDOWNERS**

Campaspe Shire Council's Rural Tree Scheme is now open, providing rural landowners the opportunity to purchase plants at a subsidised rate.

Mayor, Cr Adrian Weston, said the scheme provides an incentive to rural landowners to buy native species at reduced price.

"The take up has proven successful with the planting of more than 45,000 plants over the last five years," Cr Weston said.

The planting of trees, shrubs and ground cover species provides multiple benefits to both the landowner and the broader community and catchment. Indigenous species are particularly suited for our climate and soil.

A recent survey of 60 scheme participants revealed a 75 per cent survival rate three years after planting.

"This is a great result. Trees, shrubs and ground cover provide habitat for wildlife, create wind breaks, offer shade and privacy, visually improves landscape and are low maintenance," Cr Weston said.

All Campaspe Shire rural zoned ratepayers are eligible to purchase plants at a subsidised rate through the Rural Tree Scheme. The offer is currently available until 1 November, or when the allocated funds have been spent.

The number of plants available is limited to property size. Once ordered, the plants are available for collection in either Spring 2017 or Autumn 2018. This allows landowners time to prepare the planting site to ensure high survival rates. Information and advice is available from Campaspe Shire's Environmental Projects Officer or the Victorian Landcare Gateway on site preparation.

Order forms are available from all customer service centres, the Campaspe Shire website or can be mailed out on request.

**To coordinate an interview or seek further information contact:**

Communications Unit, Sandra Ennis 5481 2203 or Bel Anderson 5481 2825