

# THE AUSTRALIAN PINE

## Invasive Tree Species

### Australian Pine Overview

Australian Pines (Casuarina species) are a non-native tree species in Florida. The species was initially introduced to tropical areas throughout the world to stabilize sand dunes and to form windbreaks. Since then, it has since been confirmed that Australian Pines in a non-native habitat are harmful to the natural environment and create hazardous conditions that far outweigh any benefits. The tree's lateral root system and top heavy structure provides poor resistance to high winds and make it vulnerable to toppling and major branch breakage, which can cause extensive property damage.

### Advisory

If there are Australian Pines in the public right-of-way adjacent to your home, the Public Works Department will be removing the trees and will replace them with other non-invasive species. The department will contact you prior to the replacement of any tree.

### Replacement/Maintenance

If you have Australian Pines on your property, outside of the public right-of-way, you are encouraged to remove the trees and replace them with a non-invasive species. If you choose to keep the trees, you are required to maintain them in a safe non-hazardous condition by pruning them to reduce the overall height of the trees to mitigate the potential for damage to neighboring properties in the event of a tree breakage or collapse due to high winds.

### Questions/Information

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact the Public Works Department at 305-669-6916.



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