



## Coastal Tea Tree (*Leptospermum laevigatum*)

- **Origin** – South Eastern Australia
- **Growth Habit** – Large Shrub or Tree
- **Fruit** – Woody, flat-topped cups with up to 11 compartments
- **Habitat** – Coastal dunes and a variety of disturbed habitats
- **Flowers** – White, 15-20mm diameter with five petals produced mid-winter to spring

### Plant Description

Coastal Tea Tree naturally occurs in the south eastern areas of Australia. It grows as a large shrub or tree between 1.5m and 6m tall. Mature stems are covered with long strips of thin brown bark. Leaves are leathery, oval and grey-green in colour.

### Impacts

Coastal Tea Tree was introduced to Western Australia as a dune-stabilising plant. With the ability to produce large numbers of seeds this plant has become a highly invasive weed especially in coastal areas. It is tolerant to drought, strong salty winds and frost often forming dense thickets out-competing all other plants.

### City of Rockingham Local Law 2000

Coastal Tea Tree is listed as a Pest Plant under City of Rockingham Pest Plants Local Law 2000. Under this law, City of Rockingham may serve on the owner or occupier of private land notice requiring the destruction, eradication or otherwise control of any pest plant on that land.

### Control Methods

Small plants can be removed by hand. Larger plants can be cut off at the base of the trunk. This will usually kill the plant, but re-sprouting can sometimes occur. Any re-sprouting of stumps is treatable with 250ml Access® per 15L of diesel. Apply solution to bottom 50cm of trunk.

### Further Information

- <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/5850>

