



ACT
Government

Transport Canberra
and City Services

Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

Botanical Name: *Pinus torreyana* (Plt)

Common Name: Torrey pine

Species Description

- Evergreen
- Large tall tree with upright growth
- Dark grey to black bark with deep furrows and flat, scaly ridges
- Dark green needles held in [fascicles](#) of five
- Female flowers are reddish and male flowers are yellow and borne in heads
- Woody cones, which are almost round when open

Height and width

15 to 20 metres tall by 15 metres wide

Species origin

Grows in a very specific area of San Diego (Southern California) and Santa Rosa Island (off the coast of California)

Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required: $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Ideal for urban parkland plantings
- Can be used for verge planting in open landscape situations but not suitable for urban streets or high-rise shopping precincts
- Not suitable near paths or driveway
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

Use considerations

- Ideal for Canberra's climate
- High frost tolerance to minus 10 degrees Celsius and high drought tolerance
- Will grow in most, if not all, Canberra soils
- [Long lived](#)
- Generally slow growing, but can grow faster in cultivation
- High flammability
- Produces pollen and seeds; attracts birds
- Cone drop, including edible nuts, may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas

Examples in Canberra

Westbourne Woods and Cotter Road, Curtin. Young Torrey pines can be seen on City Hill.

Availability

A rare species. Can be difficult to procure seed so forward ordering is essential.

