



Office of  
Environment  
& Heritage

OEH Environment Line on 131555

To the householder,

The Office of Heritage and Environment (OEH) and Holroyd Council have been receiving calls from residents in Girraween about trees and shrubs within the suburb which are dying.

OEH has already responded to many of these calls and is currently conducting a thorough and detailed investigation to determine the cause of the dieback; including extensive sampling of dying vegetation and soils from numerous locations across the area.

So far our tests have found that many of the dead or dying trees in the area have been affected by a herbicide that is normally used on grain crops.

Based on the results of the OEH investigation, Western Sydney Public Health Unit has advised that there is no ongoing risk to human health from this incident.

Local residents may continue to see dieback in local plants as the weather warms up, because the herbicide can lay dormant in a plant during the winter months.

The investigation is continuing and a nearby herbicide manufacturer is assisting OEH with our inquiries. Local residents with any information and/or concerns should contact the OEH Environment Line on 131555.

Yours sincerely

13 SEP 2011

**GISELLE HOWARD**  
Director Metropolitan  
Environment Protection and Regulation  
Office of Environment and Heritage  
Department of Premier and Cabinet

The Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water is now known as the Office of Environment and Heritage, Department of Premier and Cabinet