

# Verge policy and guidelines

What you need to think about before you start



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Maintaining verge lawn and planting trees, shrubs and groundcovers are great ways to keep your street looking well-cared for and interesting. However, you need to be aware of Council regulations that may apply to your area.

- It is important that planted areas do not obstruct access for pedestrians. If there is no formal footpath, you need to leave an area clear where people can walk through.
- Plant trees at least a metre from the edge of the road. Make sure there are no electricity cables overhead – or choose a tree that won't grow tall enough to get caught in them.
- It is important to make sure that planted areas do not obstruct line of sight along the roadway or create any hazards for people or vehicles. Select shrubs that will stay low and are easy to prune, particularly near the entry to your driveway and near corners.
- There must be access for servicing utilities (like power, water or phone cables) and for meter reading, postal delivery and other similar services.
- You need to think about leaving space for easy access to your wheelie bins on collection day. You will also need to make sure there is space to put out materials for annual green waster or household rubbish collections.
- If you install reticulation for your lawn or garden, it needs to be well covered. Any sprinkler heads must sit below the lawn surface so they do not become trip hazards for others walking across your verge.

If you have any questions about what you can or can't do on your verge, contact:

**Park Project Officer**  
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