

Verge Landscape Treatment (Urban) Standard Guidelines and Application Form

Road verges provide space for the public utilities eg water, gas sewer telephone, stormwater, power and they also allow the Shire to create streetscape to enhance amenities in the area.

The Shire of Murray wishes to encourage and support residents in the safe development of verges in urban areas to enhance the streetscape and amenity of the area. All verge treatments are to be in accordance with Councils Local Laws and works can only be undertaken after approval by the Director Technical Services or his representative.

When the Shire of Murray, or any other authority empowered to do so under any written law, disturbs a verge, the Shire of Murray or authority is not liable to compensate any person for that disturbance nor replace any verge treatment.

Guidelines

1. Residents should submit a verge landscape treatment form for assessment and approval by the Shire and no works are to commence until appropriate approval in writing has been received from the Shire of Murray.
2. A permit is not required from the Shire of Murray for planting lawn on verges or for the installation of reticulation.
3. A permit is required for all other works in the verge such as garden beds, shrubs, kerbing, paving, retaining walls and structures.
4. Treatments not adhering to the Shire of Murray guidelines must be altered at the applicant's cost.
5. No part of the verge should be identified for parking purposes.
6. Trees and shrubs whether endemic or introduced must not be removed without written consent of the Director of Technical Services.
7. Street trees planted on the verge make a more pleasant urban environment and add aesthetic value to the community. They are to be incorporated into the design and tree species are to be approved by the Shire.
8. In un-kerbed areas the swale drainage is sensitive to changes in levels. No fill or crossover is to be constructed which alters the levels of the verge area. If the verge area is filled to give an even grade from the property boundary to the road then the street has no drainage and is prone to flooding.
9. Adequate access to the letterbox for mail delivery must be allowed for.
10. At all times pedestrians must have a two metre clear zone adjacent to the kerb providing safe access along the verge.
11. No vegetation is to be of a thorny or poisonous nature, or grow more than 500mm in height (other than trees).
12. Vegetation should not encroach onto footpaths or roadways.
13. Sprinklers should not cause interference to the safe movement of traffic or the safe use of the footpath.
14. Earth mounding, rocks or retaining walls or other non-breakable items/structures are not permitted as they may cause a hazard.
15. Do not place or erect any fence, enclosure, rockery or other obstruction on, or about, a lawn or garden on the verge area.
16. No more than one third of the area of the verge is to be a hard non-permeable material (excluding any crossover) and of an acceptable material.

Acceptable Materials

- Grass
- Low prostrate ground covers
- Mulch
- Brick Paving *
- Bitumen *
- Compacted Sawdust #
- Shredded organic mulch #
- Concrete *
- Gravel #
- Crushed Brick

* No more than 1/3 of the area (excluding crossover)

Approved, provided they are contained within the verge areas and do not spread onto adjacent, road, pavement or paths.

Non Acceptable Materials

- Blue metal, limestone rubble
- Gravel limestone mixes
- Any similar loose aggregate.

Shire of Murray Responsibility

1. Inspection

Each verge treatment may be inspected by the Shire from time to time, to ensure that the approved verge treatment is maintained to the required standard.

2. Breach

Should a verge treatment not comply with this policy, the Shire may require the property owner to make the necessary changes. Should these changes not be made, the Shire may complete the works at the property owners cost.

Applicant's Responsibility

- The applicant will be responsible for costs involved in the construction and maintenance of a verge treatment.
- If required, a Traffic Management Plan must be submitted to the Shire of Murray.
- The verge treatment is to be maintained in a safe and tidy condition at all times. Specifically in the case of semi-permeable materials, all materials are to be contained within the kerblines.
- Accept that the verge remains public property and may be traversed by the Shire as and when required.
- Water or maintain the verge in such a manner as to not cause a nuisance to other people.
- Accept that any verge treatments automatically become the property of the Shire of Murray.
- Contact service authorities and 'Dial Before You Dig' on 1100 to locate all underground services prior to undertaking any works within the verge area and take all care to ensure that no damage is caused to underground services.

Contact the Shire of Murray Technical Services Department

on 9531 7777 if you require additional information.



Verge Landscape Treatment (Urban)

Application Form

Please return this form to the Shire of Murray either by email to mailbag@murray.wa.gov.au, fax to 9531 1981 or post to PO Box 21, Pinjarra WA 6208
For any enquires, please call the Shire's Technical Services Department on 9531 7777.

Property Details

Lot No: _____ House No: _____ Street: _____

Suburb: _____

Owner Name: _____ Contact Phone _____

Owner Address: _____
(Only if different to above if same write as above)

Name of Applicant: _____
(Only if different to owner name)

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date _____

Type of Verge Landscaping / Treatment Required

(See Attachment for Guidelines)

Please complete a sketch of verge landscaping / treatment required on the other side of this form:

<u>Office Use</u>	
Initial Inspection: _____	Date: _____
Approved: _____	Date: _____
Final Inspection: _____	Date: _____