



# Verge Greening Guidelines

The City has developed verge greening guidelines to empower its residents to green their verges in a safe and sustainable way. Verge greening projects may include native gardens, waterwise gardens or edible gardens. The guidelines enable residents to maximise the use of verges adjacent to their **property**, whilst ensuring there is enough space for pedestrians, service utilities and trees. Upgrading of a verge that is designed and installed in line with these guidelines does not require the City's approval.

## Verge Greening Design Guidelines

- ❖ To ensure sight lines to pedestrians and traffic are maintained, any planting within 1.5m either side of a crossover is less than 0.75m in height;
- ❖ Provide clear lines of sight for road and crossover users and ensure that visibility is maintained by the property owner;
- ❖ Do not include plants that may reasonably be considered to pose a hazard to people; such as plants that are poisonous or with thorns greater than 1 inch;
- ❖ Use plants that will not interfere with or cause damage to the footpath, trees or property;
- ❖ Where there is no existing footpath, a clear thoroughfare must be kept with a minimum width of 2m immediately adjacent to the kerb;
- ❖ All verge gardens must meet the higher level requirements of the City of Bayswater's Street Verge Policy; and
- ❖ Undue hazards and sharp objects such as rocks, stakes and star pickets cannot be placed on the verge.

## Raised Garden Bed Guidelines

- ❖ The maximum raised garden bed (built structure) height is 0.35m (not including vegetation);
- ❖ Where there is no existing footpath, a clear thoroughfare must be kept with a minimum width of 2m immediately adjacent to the kerb;
- ❖ Provide a 0.5m setback from footpaths, common driveways and street trees; and
- ❖ Provide a 0.5m setback and clear access to any other infrastructure such as power poles and underground services.

## Responsibility of Residents

### **Residents must:**

- ❖ Ensure that their verge is well maintained;
- ❖ Contact utility providers or '*dial before you dig*' to ensure that their verge gardens will not impact on existing infrastructure.

## What the City encourages

### **In considering the installation of a green verge you should:**

- ❖ Take into consideration how your verge makeover will improve biodiversity, water usage, aesthetics, food production and minimise the need for fertiliser use and other chemicals; and
- ❖ Discuss your plans with your neighbours before you undertake your verge makeover to ensure that it will not adversely impact on them.

If a green verge is considered to pose a safety hazard, does not meet the design guidelines or resident responsibility criteria, the City may ask you to undertake works to meet these requirements or remove the verge garden.

Green verges may have to be disturbed to allow access for utility service providers and the installation of footpaths. In these cases, the disturbed area will be returned to level ground.