

Pocket and Community Garden Policy

Responsible Division	Infrastructure and Assets
Responsible Business Unit	Parks and Environment
Responsible Officer	Manager Parks and Environment
Affected Business Units	Parks and Gardens; Sustainable Environment; Community Services Governance and Strategy; Corporate Services
ECM Document Set ID	4867414

Purpose

The City recognises gardening as a valuable activity that builds strong community relationships, contributes to the communities health and wellbeing and provides a range of environmental, social and educational benefits.

The purpose of this policy is to support residents and community groups that wish to use a portion of the City's parks and gardens as an 'Edible pocket garden', 'Community Garden' or 'Miyawaki Style Garden' to promote greening and sustainability initiatives throughout the City.

Definitions

For the purpose of this policy:

'Edible Pocket Garden' is defined as a green space that:

- a) Is on City owned or managed land;
- b) Is managed by residents or the local community;
- c) The fundamental activity is the production of consumable plants for use by the community; and
- d) Is not a formal community garden.

'Miyawaki Style Garden' is defined as a green space that:

- a) Is on City owned or managed land;
- b) Is managed by residents or the local community for the first 3 years through the establishment period;
- c) The fundamental activity is the planting of native trees and some lower story native plants; and
- d) Is not a formal community garden.

'Community Garden' is defined as a green space that:

- a) Is on City owned or managed land;
- b) Is managed by an incorporated local community group or association;
- c) The fundamental activity is the production of consumable plants for use by the community and members of the Community Group; and

- d) Is a formal community garden with an agreement with the City.

Policy Statement

Where appropriate, the City will support growing native trees and plants within an approved Miyawaki Style Garden and also support growing appropriate fruit trees or edible plants in an Edible Pocket Garden and Community Garden within parks and reserves in the City of Bayswater.

Guidance on the establishment and management of community gardens is provided in the '*Edible Pocket, Miyawaki Style and Community Garden Guidelines*'. The Guidelines provide further detail and requirements that are necessary to gain approval in addition to the below:

- a) A suitable site is identified to the satisfaction of the City.
- b) A resident gains all approvals prior to undertaking any works.
- c) The edible pocket garden or Miyawaki style garden does not require significant changes to the park or reserve landscaping requirements and is complementary to the present and future objectives of the site.
- d) The site is prepared and maintained by the resident/s or community group to the satisfaction of the City.
- e) If any garden is considered by the City to pose a safety hazard or is poorly maintained, the City can request the resident to undertake works to meet the requirements of this policy. If these requests cannot be met the City may remove the garden.
- f) Approved edible pocket or community gardens built prior to the adoption of this policy do not need to seek retrospective approval, however will need to meet the other ongoing requirements of this policy and the guidelines
- g) Residents are required to meet the Edible Pocket, Miyawaki Style and Community Garden Guidelines'; which may be modified from time-to-time.
- h) Community gardens must be registered to an incorporated community group or incorporated not-for-profit organisation,
- i) Edible pocket gardens or Miyawaki style gardens can be requests from residents, owners or community groups.
- j) A risk and safety assessment, management plan and rules of use for the garden must be prepared in conjunction with the City
- k) For a Community Garden a draft license agreement will be prepared by the City and agreed to before commencement of Community Garden.
- l) Edible pocket gardens or Miyawaki style gardens do not require a licence agreement, however agreements shall be in the form of a written letter to the applicant.

Related Legislation

Nil.

Related Documentation

Edible Pocket, Miyawaki Style and Community Garden Guidelines

Document details

Relevant delegations	Nil.		
Risk evaluation	Low		
Strategic link	Environment and Liveability E2 Remain focused on greening the City’s suburbs and streetscapes and increasing the tree canopy. E5 Protect and enhance the Ciyt’s natural environment and biodiversity, and encourage the community to participate in its protection.		
Council adoption	24 January 2018	Resolution	9.2.2
Reviewed/modified	28 January 2025	Resolution	10.5.1.4
Next review due	28 January 2029		