

Unacceptable treatments



- Hard surfaces, in the form of paving is used.
- The pebbles used as mulch are too big.
- Artificial turf should not be used especially if laid on concrete.
- The use of edging has the potential to be a trip hazard.



- Paving is used throughout the nature strip.
- The plant species used are taller than 500mm.
- The Pennisetum plant species is a very serious local environmental weed.
- The raised ledge is a tripping hazard.

Acceptable treatments



- Fine gravel mulch such as Lilydale or Tuscan Topping depth of 75mm is acceptable.



- Planting is setback of at least 1 metre from back of kerb.
- Plants are 500mm in height or less.
- A break in planting provides access to the footpath.

contact

Translation



To have any information in this brochure translated, contact Translating and Interpreting Services on 13 14 50 and ask to be connected to Council on 9742 0777.

City Presentation

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Naturestrip Landscaping Guidelines

The following provides some acceptable options and guidelines for nature strip treatments.

Grassed Nature Strips

Grassed nature strips remain the most common form of nature strip treatment in Wyndham. The use of drought tolerant grasses provides a low maintenance treatment which requires only periodic mowing and weeding.

Mulch

Two mulch types may be used:

Fine gravel mulches such as washed granitic sand and Tuscan or Lilydale toppings to a depth of 75mm; or

Organic mulch such as a graded bark or multi-bark mixed to a depth of 75mm, that is resistant to disturbance by wind and rain.

Unacceptable Synthetic turf, river pebbles, polished pebbles, scoria, blue metal and other loose stones are not acceptable.

Approved Planting

Residents are able to plant their nature strips with a range of ground cover plants or grasses, provided the following conditions are met:

- At least 1 metre from the back of the kerb is kept clear to allow for the opening of car doors;
- Only ground cover plants are used for corner blocks to ensure a good line of sight for motorists and pedestrians;
- There is a suitable space for the location and emptying of refuse and recycling bins;
- There is safe and suitable access to the footpath for people exiting a parked car;
- Where there is no footpath, 1.2m from the property line is kept clear and planting to allow safe pedestrian access; and
- Plantings do not exceed 500mm in height at maturity.

The following plants are not acceptable for nature strip planting:

Woody plants; plants with spikes or prickles; shrubs which grow to 500mm or higher which obscure driver's line of sight; or species considered to be weeds.

Unacceptable Nature Strip Treatments

The following are not permitted on nature strips:

- Hard surfaces such as concrete, pavers, asphalt or stepping stones.
- Irrigation systems.
- Rocks, bluestone pitchers, railway sleepers or retaining walls as these are all potential trip hazards.
- Letterboxes must be established on private property and allow for suitable access by Australia Post.
- Temporary or permanent electrical wiring (e.g. for the use of lighting trees).

Maintenance Responsibilities

Council does not carry out renovation or maintenance of nature strips. It is the responsibility of residents to maintain the nature strip abutting their properties.

Maintenance responsibilities of landscaped nature strips

- Residents are required to keep the nature strip in a well maintained and safe condition at all times.
- Plants are to be pruned to a height of no more than 500mm at all times (excluding street trees);
- Plants are to be pruned so that they do not protrude onto pathways, driveways, or within 1m of the back of the kerb;
- The nature strip is to be kept free of weeds and rubbish;
- No mulch is allowed onto the footpath, driveways or in the kerb and channel;
- The level of the mulch must not extend above the level of the footpath or kerb; and
- The nature strip is to be kept free of any tripping hazards and any protruding objects.

Street Trees

Residents are not permitted to plant or remove street trees. The planting and maintenance of street trees is the responsibility of Council. If a street tree is required in the nature strip, Council will arrange for the planting of a suitable street tree which conforms with Council's Street Tree Policy.



Excavation & Cultivation

Excavation and cultivation must be by hand.

Mechanical excavation (bobcat/dingo) or cultivation (rotary hoe) may damage street trees, infrastructure and services installed underground.

Only hand (spade or fork) excavation and cultivation is permitted. As hand digging may expose some underground services, the property owner or their contractor is advised to contact 'Dial Before You Dig' on 1100. The owner/occupier is responsible for repairing any damage to infrastructure caused by landscaping works.

Damaged Nature Strips

If the nature strip has been damaged as a result of building work, the property owner or builder is responsible for repairs.

At times, utility companies that supply water, gas, electricity and telecommunications can require access to your nature strip to perform maintenance work. If the nature strip becomes damaged following the works, the Service Authority is responsible for reinstating the nature strip. There is no guarantee, however, that the contractors will replace landscaping such as plants and mulch to match the condition that existed prior to maintenance work.