**TREE PLANTING**

Trees may be planted on your naturestrip provided they comply with council’s Greening Port Phillip Strategy. For more information go to www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/

**TYPICAL NATURESTRIP TREATMENTS**

Instant turf is nursery grown grass that is cut and lifted in rolls like a living carpet. It gives an instant greening effect!

Many people choose the option of seeding their naturestrip and watching it grow. While this may take a little longer, seeding is more cost effective than instant turf.

Garden beds on nature strips provide variety and colour in your street. A species list containing recommendations for plants that are hardy in the local climate can be found online.

To find helpful hints and more information about these treatments you can find a fact sheet at www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/

**ADOPT A TREE**

Residents are encouraged to adopt a tree on their street or in a local park. Tips on tree care and information on claiming your Adopt-a-Tree packet are available on the web at http://www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/adopt_a_tree_care_tips.htm

**QUESTIONS?**

Parks and Open Space officers are available to consult with residents wishing to change their nature strip. To access this service contact Parks and Open Space on email at OSpace@portphillip.vic.gov.au; via phone on 9209 6821 or access information on the council’s website www.portphillip.vic.gov.au

www.portphillip.vic.gov.au
ASSIST 9209 6777

**NATURE STRIP GUIDELINES**

UPDATED 2013
BEFORE YOU START
The City of Port Phillip wants to support you in greening your local area, here are some important items to consider.

APPROACH
The City of Port Phillip’s vision for open space is: A city where public open spaces define the city’s character and respond to its people’s need for places to rest, recreate and be inspired. (Open Space Strategy 2009)

Nature strips are the municipality’s smallest open spaces. The City of Port Phillip developed guidelines and factsheets to assist residents in improving their naturestrips.

WHAT IS A NATURE STRIP?
A nature strip is the area of Council land between the boundary of private property and the street kerb. Nature strips are the location for services such as telephone, gas, water and power.

REQUIREMENTS
Plants on your naturestrip should not grow above 1000mm in height.

Vegetation should not block or cover existing council footpaths, storm drains, kerbs and other council assets.

Vegetation other than groundcovers up to 500mm is not permitted within 10 metres of an intersection (property boundary) to ensure line of sight is maintained.

NATURE STRIP CHECKLIST
☐ Obtain a free Dig Before You Dig report before breaking ground. Call 1100 for service information.
☐ You must be prepared to cover all maintenance and installation costs and labour.
☐ Adequate space for collection of rubbish and recycling bins must be provided.
☐ Discuss proposed nature strip amendments with neighbours, land lord or body corporate.
☐ The line of sight for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers of motor vehicles must not be blocked by vegetation.
☐ Select plants that are drought tolerant and require minimal maintenance.
☐ Plantings should be suited to the look and feel of the existing streetscape.
☐ Where possible and practicable nature strip planting should include non-invasive indigenous plants that creates habitat for native insects, birds and other wildlife.
☐ When working on or near roads ensure that you take appropriate care to ensure your and others safety as well as that of surrounding property.
☐ Check the suggested species list (available on the council website) to help you select plants for your nature strip.
☐ Select plants that are not poisonous, weedy or known to be a common cause of allergies.
☐ Your naturestrip should be kept neat and safe.
☐ Check that the nature strip is not an iconic boulevard as listed in the Municipal Strategic Statement. If it is, refer to the Nature Strips on Key Boulevards Guidelines, available on the council website.
☐ Synthetic surfaces such as fake grass are not permitted as a nature strip surface.