



Nature Strip Management Guidelines

Garden Beds on Nature Strips

HANDY TIPS FOR PLANTING A GARDEN BED

- Contact Dial Before You Dig on 1100 or www.1100.com.au before breaking ground (free service).
- Discuss your nature strip proposal with neighbours, body corporate or land lord. Ask them what types or species of plants work well in their gardens. You may even be able to share cuttings of your plants!
- Remove weeds and unwanted grass from nature strip.
- Turn over top 200mm of soil to aerate and soften your garden soil.
- Consider adding at least 50-100mm of organic material or top soil to your garden bed.
- Your local nursery is a wealth of knowledge. Ask one of the gardeners what they recommend for your suburb.
- Take note of when your garden bed is in the sun by recording the time of day, intensity and duration of sunshine. This information will be helpful when selecting plants that will thrive in your garden.
- Use plants that have low maintenance and water requirements.
- Prune your garden at the end of the growing season to maximise growth and health.
- Top your garden bed with organic mulch such as bark chips in a 50-75mm layer to suppress weeds and enhance the water retention potential of your garden.
- Water your new garden bed 3 times per week for 5 weeks to help it get established.
- Ensure you select plants that will not grow above 1000mm in height.
- Consider groundcover or plants less than 300mm in height for the edge of your garden bed.
- Keep the lines of sight for pedestrians, cyclists and operators of motor vehicles open at all times.
- 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
- Ensure that plantings don't grow over the footpath, pedestrian crossings or kerb.
- Remember to leave enough space for the collection of rubbish/recycling bins and for people to access parked cars.
- Take before and after photographs to record all of your hard work!



SPECIES LIST

A species list is available on the council website. The list contains recommendations for plants that have proven to be hardy in the local climate.

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