



# Nature Strip and Street Gardening Guideline Summary

The following is a summary of the nature strip and street gardening guidelines for City of Port Phillip. If you are planning to plant on a nature strip or install a planter box, we recommend reviewing the full guidelines.

## Definitions



**Nature strip:** Is an area of public space between the road and pedestrian footpath which is made up of soil and often grass.



**Planter boxes:** A planter box is a fully sealed pot, often square or rectangular, which can be filled with soil and planted.



**Tree plots:** A tree plot is a designated area where council managed trees grow. They can vary in size but are often small and contain gravel.



**Raised edging:** Is a raised material such as metal, wood or bluestones, used to create a garden bed boundary and contain soil / mulch. Raised edges are not permitted.

## Nature strip planting

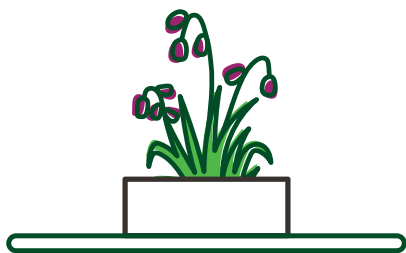
### What can I plant or have on my nature strip?

- ✓ Plants under 1 m in height
- ✓ Plants under 50 cm in height within: 30 cm from a footpath, 2 m from a driveway, 50 cm from a kerb, 10 m from a corner, pedestrian crossing or intersection.
- ✓ Only groundcovers, grass or mulch to allow pedestrian access: At least 1 m every 5 m of nature strip when adjacent to parallel parking, at least 60 cm every 5.5 m when adjacent to angled parking, and within 50 cm radius of a tree.

### What can't I plant or have on my nature strip?

- ✗ Any item other than plants or mulch
- ✗ Plants considered significant environmental weeds
- ✗ Edible plants
- ✗ Prickly or thorny plants
- ✗ Planter boxes
- ✗ Raised edging

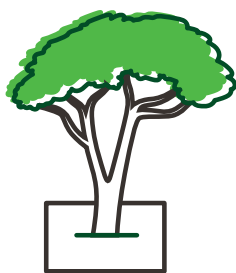
## Where else can I plant?



### Planter boxes:

A planter box no more than 0.9 m in height and 1.8 m in length can be placed on a paved area where a nature strip would usually exist, and must maintain:

- ✓ 1 m clearance from the kerb
- ✓ 1.5 m clearance footpath area for pedestrian access
- ✓ 1 m clearance from trees and street structures.



### Tree plots:

Tree plots can vary significantly in size. To protect existing trees, tree plots which are too small should not be planted in. Tree plots can be planted with plants below 50 cm in height where:

- ✓ There is space to leave a 30 cm radius around existing tree; or
- ✓ If I've received permission from council to plant in a vacant tree plot.

### Have a question:

- ✉ Get in contact:  
[greening@portphillip.vic.gov.au](mailto:greening@portphillip.vic.gov.au)
- 🖱 For full guidelines:  
[portphillip.vic.gov.au/media/tggjf0eh/nature-strip-guidelines-2022.pdf](https://portphillip.vic.gov.au/media/tggjf0eh/nature-strip-guidelines-2022.pdf)

## Steps to planting your nature strip

- 1 Read the full Nature Strip Guidelines** and consider how they relate to your nature strip.
- 2 Talk to your Neighbours.** They might want to join in and plant their nature strip too.
- 3 Make a plant list:** Use our list of weeds and recommended plants. Prioritise plants that benefit our local biodiversity, are low maintenance, and plants that you love!
- 4 Plan your planting:** Measure your nature strip to calculate how many plants you'll need. Know the heights and width of the plants you've chosen.
- 5 Gather your resources.** Visit local nurseries to purchase your plants. Think about whether you might want some mulch.
- 6 Get planting!** Tip: Place all your plants out before you put them in the ground to be happy with placement. Don't forget your gardening gloves.
- 7 Maintain your garden.** This will include watering while plants establish, and as your garden grows, pruning to keep areas such as kerbs, footpaths and pedestrian access clear.

Scan the QR code

For full  
guidelines

