

CITY OF BELMONT

Verges & Footpaths

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Verges

The City is grateful to ratepayers for the care they take in maintaining the verges adjacent to their properties. Although verges are under the control of the City, residents are encouraged to care for them, thus improving the overall appearance of not only the street but your properties as well.

Verge Treatments

The City's approval is not required to install a verge treatment, however there are conditions that apply and these are:-

- The type of verge treatment installed must comply with the City of Belmont's "Activities on Thoroughfares and Trading in Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law" (March 2011).
- No verge treatment should encroach on the footpath or road.
- You can plant and maintain a lawn or install a permeable artificial grass on the verge (after taking into consideration the vehicle crossover, any footpath and conditions detailed under 'Acceptable Materials' for artificial grass), **or** you can consider a combination of verge treatments using acceptable materials.
- The City has developed a list of acceptable materials that can be used on verges and these are detailed in the

The materials on this list have been selected to assist you in making choices that will use less water and hopefully require less of your time to maintain.

- No more than one half of the verge (excluding the crossover and any footpath) can be covered with any one selection from the list of acceptable materials. This is called the 50% rule and a series of verge scenarios has been developed to assist you in determining how this applies to your verge. These scenarios reflect verges with and without a footpath and shows the different positions a footpath may be within the verge.
- The location of the footpath in the verge will determine what part of the verge the 50% Rule applies to and where a complete area of impervious material is permitted. See Appendix 1 for the verge scenario diagrams.
- Maintenance of any verge treatment/s selected is your responsibility.
- If you feel that your verge differs from any of these scenarios, then put a request in writing to the City for consideration of alternative options for your situation.

CITY OF BELMONT

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Acceptable Materials

Acceptable materials for using on your verge are:

- (a) Lawn
- (b) Plants (see conditions below)
- (c) Mulch (particle size to be no greater than 20mm)
- (d) Mulched plants (see conditions below and particle size for mulch to be no greater than 20mm)
- (e) Permeable artificial grass (see conditions)
- (f) Impervious material.

Conditions:

1. Plants must not be poisonous or prickly.
2. Plants must be less than 50cm at all times when measured from the level of the adjacent kerb.
3. Where there is not a footpath, no planting can occur within 2m of the carriageway (road).
4. Plants must not be planted in the verge within 6m of an intersection.
5. The artificial grass manufacturer's installation guidelines are to be followed however no concrete bases or footings are to be used in the installation of artificial grass and the artificial grass must be pegged down in such a manner that there are no protrusions or trip hazards.

An impervious material means:

- (a) Compacted limestone and particle size not greater than 10mm (see note)
- (b) Compacted gravel and particle size not greater than 10mm (see note)
- (c) Coloured concrete (earthy tones, not grey) thickness min. 75mm max. 100mm
- (d) Compacted aggregate and particle size not greater than 10mm (see note)
- (e) Brick paving, installed to the manufacturer's specification.

Note: for (a), (b) and (d), compaction shall be sufficient enough to ensure that there are no loose stones on the verge surface.

Reticulation

- Any water pipes laid to a lawn or garden on the verge, shall be laid beneath the surface of the street at a depth between 15cm to 30cm.
- Sprinklers must not project above the surface of the lawn.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that before reticulation is installed you contact Perth One Call on telephone number 1100 to determine the location of services such as water mains, telephone cables, gas mains and sewer mains.
- Damage caused to any road, footpath, crossover or service utility during installation shall be at the expense of the property owner on whose behalf the pipes were laid.

Pruning

Pruning of street trees becomes necessary to ensure:

- pedestrians can walk safely and comfortably under trees
- trees are kept away from power lines
- road signs are clear and vehicles have easy access beneath trees
- street lights can penetrate to the road.

Correct pruning ensures a safe, vigorous and attractive tree. Trees are not pruned just to shape them.

Council employees will prune verge trees at no cost to you. However, trees on your property are your responsibility.

Footpaths

The priority for the installation of footpaths is to cater for pedestrians on major traffic routes and to serve centres such as schools, aged accommodation, shopping centres and recreational facilities.

The City has a programme for progressively upgrading footpaths and installing pram ramps. At present the procedure is as follows:

1. Written notification received by the City that a footpath or pram ramp at a particular location is in poor condition.
2. The footpath or pram ramp is then inspected by a Technical Officer.
3. After inspection the work is prioritised and listed for funding consideration.

Street lighting

If you observe that an existing street light is not working or is on at the wrong time, contact Western Power on free call number 1800 622 008. They will require the street name and the street number of the property that the faulty light is in front of.

Requests for an additional light should be made in writing to the City of Belmont detailing the exact location for the new light and the reason why you think additional lighting is required.

Enquiries & Information

The City's Local Laws are available on our website at www.belmont.wa.gov.au.

If you require any other information regarding the above areas, please contact either the City's Parks Technical Officer (verge treatments /reticulation or pruning) or the Administration Officer Technical Services (footpaths /streetlighting) on 9477 7222.

APPENDIX 1 VERGE TREATMENT SCENARIOS

