TOWN of CLAREMONT

Verge Landscaping Guidelines 2026



Please complete and submit the enclosed Verge Landscape Application Form with a sketch to **toc@claremont.wa.gov.au**, by post to PO Box 54, Claremont WA 6910 or in person to the Administration Office at 308 Stirling Highway, Claremont.

TOWN of CLAREMONT
Est 1898

1. Verge Treatments

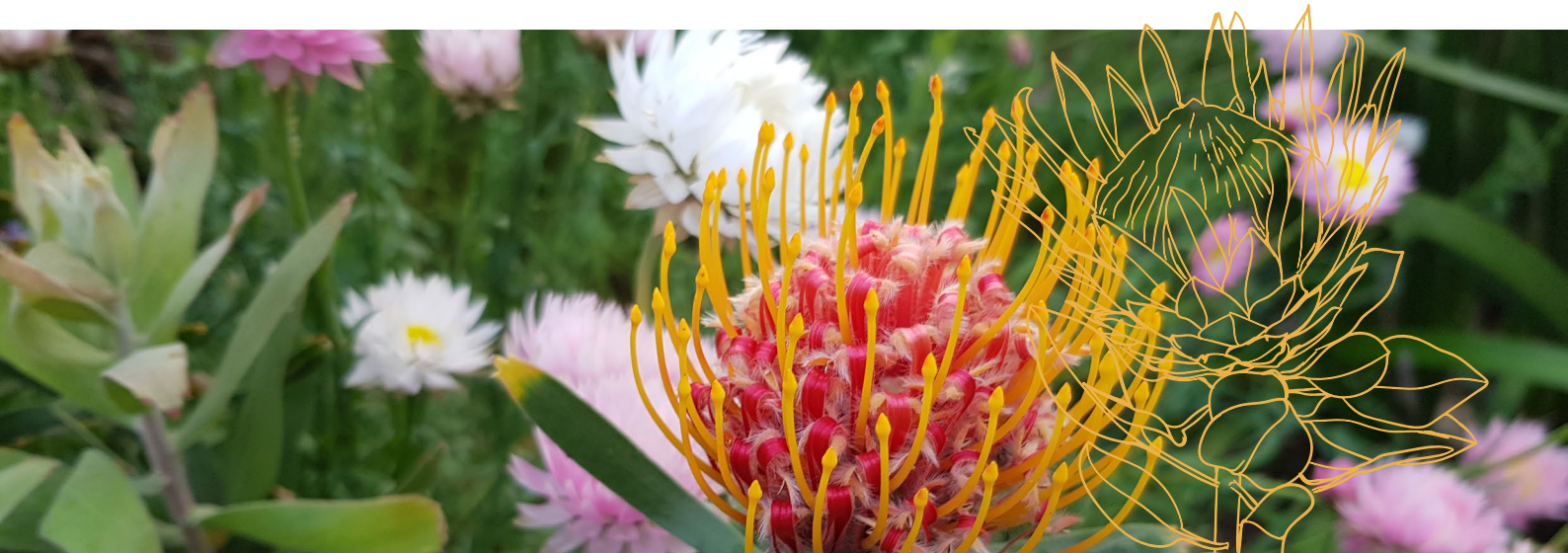
Please refer to the tables below to determine what are permissible verge treatments within the Town of Claremont and the obligations of owners and occupiers for their care and maintenance of verges for the safety and convenience of the public.

Permissible	Non-Permissible Examples
Lawn (drought tolerant varieties preferred)	Artificial turf
Garden (local and waterwise plants up to 0.4 metres in height, where sightlines are an issue and not within 6 metres of an intersection- plants can be higher elsewhere, but clear sight visibility is maintained at all times for a person using the abutting thoroughfare in the vicinity of an intersection or bend in the thoroughfare	Hazardous, prickly, or poisonous plants
Acceptable Materials (Coarse Mulch)	Rocks, stone, gravel, logs or pot plants
Porous Paving (light coloured and maximum of one third of verge area)	Concrete, loose gravel or non-porous hardstand
Waterwise Reticulation/ Irrigation	Furniture and play equipment
Street Trees (installed by Town only)	Fences, walls or raised garden beds

2. Creating a Waterwise Verge Garden

a) Residents are encouraged to install **waterwise verge gardens using local native plants** and irrigation to increase biodiversity, street amenity and reduce water use.

b) For steps on how to create a waterwise verge garden, including design suggestions, follow the Water Corporations' ***Creating a waterwise verge*** advice on their website and the below guidelines specific to the Town's verges.



3. Verge Preparation and Design

a) When designing a verge, keep in mind to **leave space for services such as bin collection, bulk verge pickups, mail deliveries and pedestrians**.

b) It is important to contact Before You Dig Australia (***www.byda.com.au***) to locate any services within the verge to determine if it is safe to carry out work. Any damage or disruption to services by a resident will be reinstated at the resident's full cost.

c) If removing lawn, levelling verge ground and improving soil, refer to Water Corporation's '***How to Create a Waterwise Verge***' brochure for details.

d) Waterwise verge gardens using local waterwise plants should not need soil conditioner prior to planting, but soil wetting agents may be used to assist holding more water in the soil for establishing plants.

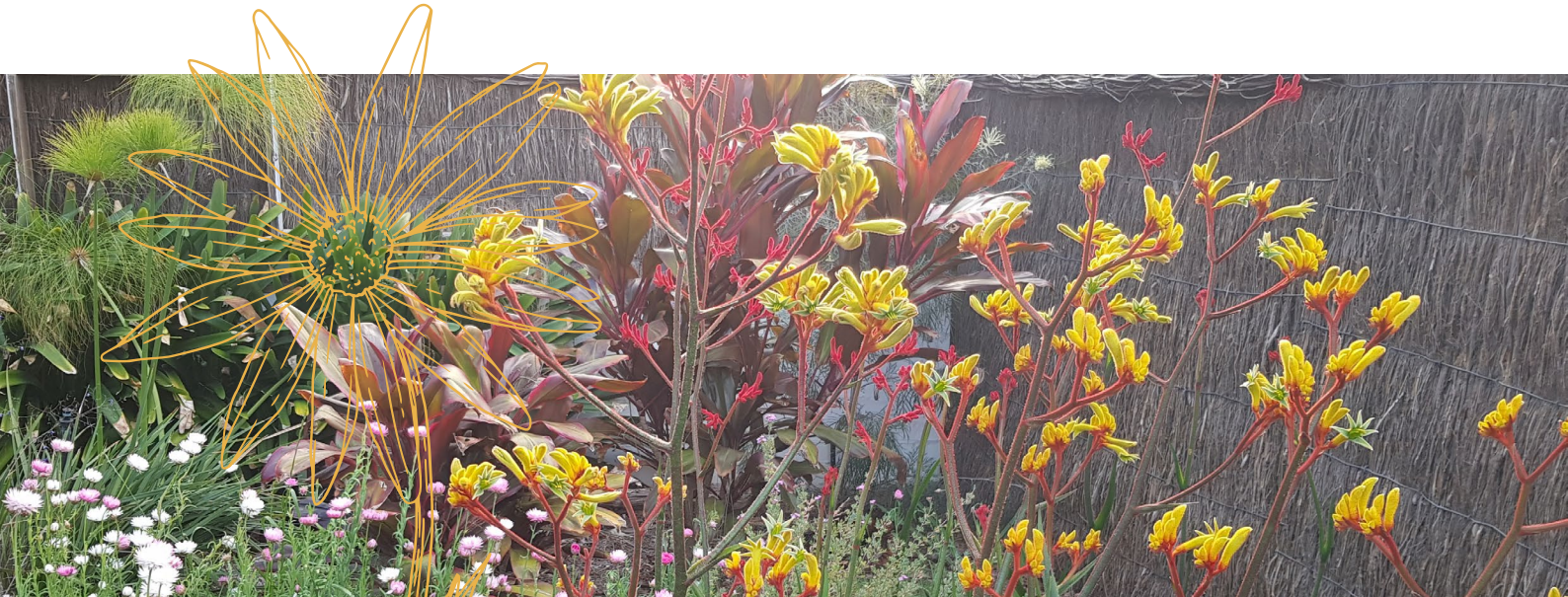
e) Where there is no footpath anywhere on the verge a 2 metre strip must be left unplanted immediately adjacent to the kerb.

f) Allow space for two 240 litre waste bins and bulk waste collections within the verge area.

4. Plant Selection

a) **The Town suggests using waterwise plants that grow to no more than 0.4 metres high for verge gardens at intersections and where sightlines are an issue (plants can be higher elsewhere).** Groundcovers and small shrubs are most suitable for verges, but also need to be kept clear of footpaths, including flower stems to ensure pedestrians have clear and safe access to streetscapes. Residents can find out what plants are waterwise and suitable for verges in Claremont on Water Corporation's website (***Waterwise plants***) or referring to the Town's '***Wildflowers and other local plants for your garden***' brochure.

b) It is recommended that course mulch is used between 5-10cm thick on a verge to reduce weeds, reduce evapotranspiration and hold moisture for plants to use.



5. Irrigation

Waterwise verge gardens that don't require permanent irrigation are preferred as they use less water.
The Town encourages the use of drip irrigation for waterwise verge landscaping or no reticulation at all if the verge is mulched or plants are fully established. This reduces water use within the Town.

If reticulation is installed, then it is encouraged within the following conditions;

a) Owners and/or occupiers are responsible for the installation, maintenance, operation and related costs of reticulation in street verges and its operation must comply with ***watering roster requirements*** set by the Water Corporation.

b) Such reticulation is to be installed centrally in the verge, not parallel or adjacent to paths, crossovers or kerbs and no wiring or solenoids are to be installed in road reserve and verge areas. Water from reticulation is to not cross over onto footpaths, carriageways, or crossovers to reduce the loss of water.

c) Choose an appropriate reticulation for the verge treatment such as drip irrigation or pop-up sprinklers. Micro sprays are not recommended – more information under ***irrigation for verges***

d) The Town will take due care and will, at its cost, reinstate reticulation equipment it damages during works carried out by or authorised for the local government, provided the installation is in line with the criteria in point b) above.

6. Street trees

Owners and/or occupiers are not permitted to plant or remove street trees within the verge without the permission of the Town.

The Town has a ***Street Tree Masterplan*** which nominates species to be planted in each street and a Tree Canopy policy which outlines the circumstances under which street trees can be removed by the Town.

To request a street tree for your waterwise verge, please complete an ***Application for New Verge Tree*** form and return to the Town.



7. Paving Verges for Parking

Paving of street verges will be permitted only to provide a location for bin or verge services, where on-street parking is not permitted, or rendered impossible because of the traffic function of the street and alternative nearby parking is not available.

Where paving of street verges is permitted, the following conditions apply:

a) Plain, light or grey porous paving to be used in the appropriate material.

b) All verge treatments containing paving materials are required to include at least one street tree (spacing of 8 metres to maintain the avenue effect) unless there are serious mitigating circumstances as determined by the Town.

c) Paving materials may not be installed closer than 2 metres from a street tree or interfere with a street tree in any way.

d) Road kerbing shall not be interfered with without prior approval from the Town in accordance with the ***Activities on Thoroughfares and Public Places Local Law***.

e) Installation over no more than one third of the area of the verge (excluding any vehicle crossing) of an acceptable material, and the planting and maintenance of either a lawn or a garden on the remainder of the verge in accordance with these guidelines.

f) The ***Town's crossing paving specifications*** apply to verge paving construction and can be found on the Town's website.

g) All requests are to be submitted using the enclosed Verge Landscaping Application.

8. Verge Maintenance

The Owner and/or occupiers are responsible for maintenance of verges including mowing lawn, pruning plants (not street trees), topping up mulch and weeding. The verge must always be kept in a tidy and safe condition. Vegetation planted on corner verges must not impede a driver's vision into traffic.

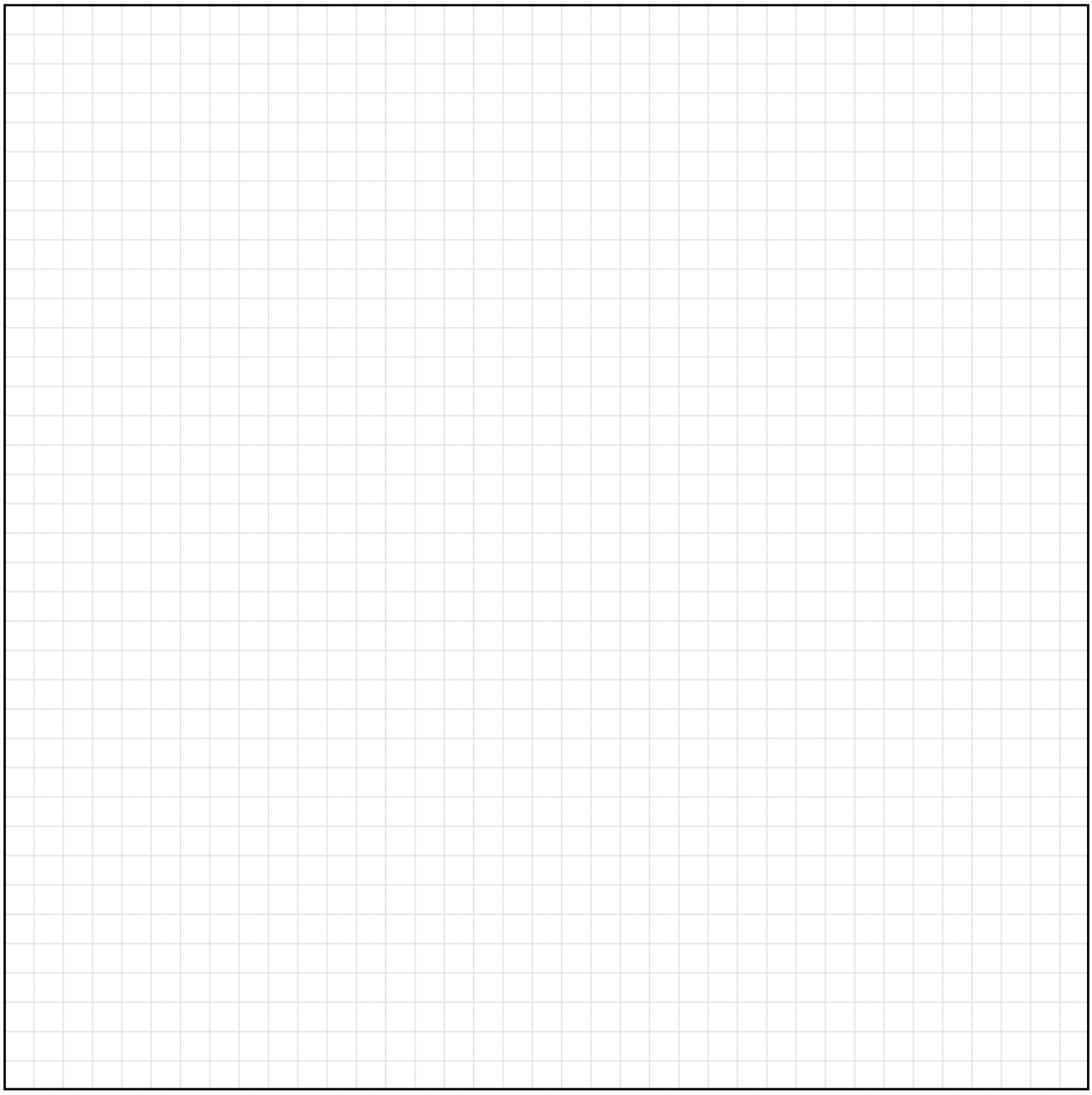


Verge Landscape Application Form

Name:		Date:	
Address:		Phone:	
Email:		Mobile:	

Please include on the below sketch:

1. Street Name
2. North orientation
3. New planting proposals
4. Any existing trees or landmarks
5. Photo if desired



Town of Claremont
308 Stirling Highway, Claremont WA 6010
PO Box 54, Claremont WA 6010
(08) 9285 4300
www.claremont.wa.gov.au