

STREET TREE GUIDELINES**Overview**

Road reserves or 'verges' are Crown Land. Street tree planting within landscaped road reserves may be carried out by the Shire of Mundaring, or developers in new subdivisions. Where there is good remnant bushland, this may be retained as a 'bush verge' instead.

Streets are generally planted with a single species to achieve a regular and continuous colonnade effect. This contributes to efficient pruning practices and provides the potential for consistent growth heights within a street.

Particular tree species are selected and located in the verge to best ensure they are appropriate for the location. Considerations include verge size, underground services, existing surrounding species, land zoning, distances from crossovers, property boundaries, intersections, traffic lights and street lights.

While low growing, waterwise plants are encouraged on verges, unauthorised tree planting within road reserves may be inappropriate or potentially dangerous. Such action may result in removal of the tree and the costs of any resultant damages to underground services or the verge being recovered.

Street tree planting needs to be carried out either by the Shire or by authorised contractors to ensure the installation of appropriate tree species and that works are undertaken safely, with adequate checks for underground services and locations that meet required alignments and distances from other public and private infrastructure.

Requirements

As a general guide street trees shall be planted greater than 6 metres from a street light, unless otherwise approved.

Street trees are to be planted a minimum of 1.3m (for a slow speed road environment) but ideally 1.5m or greater from the back of the road kerb or crossover with a minimum of 2.5m from structural elements (i.e. walls and foundations).

Street trees shall generally be planted on the 2.8m alignment from the property line but can be in a range of 2.4m to 3.0m depending on the verge width. This is set out in the 'Utility Providers Code of Practice'. Greater clearance from property boundaries can be achieved in wider road reserves.

For corner properties, trees shall not be permitted within 12.0m of the intersecting kerb alignments. At major intersections this clearance may need to be increased to comply with sight distance requirements. Depending on the speed and type of road and tree, the Shire may consider reducing the street tree spacing.

Some verges that would be difficult to plant and maintain may not be considered suitable for street tree planting i.e. due to limiting factors such as steep and/or high embankments, deep open drains, concentration of underground services, limited area for future growth of tree canopy and/or roots.

Once planted, street trees are protected under Local Laws and cannot be removed or harmed without prior approval of the Shire.

STREET TREE GUIDELINES**Characteristics of a Good Street Tree**

- Fast growing
- Responds to pruning and shaping
- Provides good shade
- Roots cause no lifting or may cause only minor lifting in certain instances. Not (highly) invasive to water and sewerage services.
- Do not readily produce suckers
- There is no excessive fouling or inconvenience caused by leaf, flower and fruit fall. That there is no excessive twig and small branch drop and that the leaves do not stain infrastructure.
- Do not have thorns
- Is not poisonous and does not cause allergies, or potential for poisoning and allergic reactions is mild and material is not highly toxic on ingestion or contact.
- Minimal branch failures
- Resistant to:
 - Severe cold and frost
 - Extreme heat and radiated heat in built up environments
 - Severe wind conditions including wind funnelling
 - Drought conditions
 - Atmospheric pollution
 - Insect attack and plant pathogens or diseases.

Attempting to find all these characteristics in a tree species is difficult and restricts the number of tree species that can be used for street trees and in close proximity to infrastructure. See the next two pages for the current species list.

Street Trees in Verge Landscaping

Property owners wishing to landscape and/or make improvement on their verge are required to submit a plan and covering letter to the Shire's Infrastructure Services in order to gain approval prior to any work commencing.

Verge landscaping allows for the inclusion of ground covers and low growing shrubs no higher than 750mm high.

Proposed inclusion of a street tree as part of a landscaped verge planting (or improvement) will need to be planted by the Shire of Mundaring.

The species of tree will need to conform to existing or intended future street tree species.

Should an established street tree exist in a verge that a property owner wishes to landscape/improve, the design must cater for the retention of the tree. This is to ensure its continuance as part of the existing street vista appeal.

Tree Removal

Removal or poisoning of a street tree without approval is prohibited under Local Laws and would lead to prosecution.

Approval to remove a street tree is only allowed in certain circumstances such as poor health, danger to public safety or significant damage to infrastructure, as assessed and confirmed by Shire staff.

For more information contact:

Infrastructure Services - 9290 6716

Street Tree Species Selection

Street trees can be exposed to harsh conditions. Hardy, endemic native tree species are preferred in areas of predominantly native vegetation, such as rural and semi-rural lots.

In general residential areas, non-invasive deciduous trees may be considered more appropriate (if included in the street trees species list below). Where verges are larger and space permits, medium to larger trees are preferred to provide cooling shade to streets and surrounding areas.

Where requests are received to install street trees for residents, the Shire will assess the surrounding patterns of street trees and an appropriate species for that location. Over time the Street Tree Species List may be revised based on watering, maintenance and survival information.

STREET TREE PLANTING OPERATIONS

Operation	Requirement
Tree size maximum	Under Power lines – Short (6 metres) No Power lines - Medium (10 -16 metres) or Large (> 16metres)
Hole Depth	800mm – 900mm
Container Size and Hole Depth	45 litre – Hole size 600-800mm 100 litre - Hole size 900mm
Spacing of trees	Generally as outlined in Table 1 of the Shire’s Street Tree Policy (PS-08)

STREET TREE SPECIES LIST

Botanical Name	Common Name	Tree size	Planting location
Native to Western Australia			
<i>Callistemon</i>	Callistemon 'Kings Park special'	Small	Residential verge / Roundabouts
<i>Corymbia ficifolia</i>	Red-flowering Gum	Small/medium	Rural verge
<i>Eucalyptus drummondi</i>	Drummonds Gum	Small	Residential verge
<i>Eucalyptus erythrocorys</i>	Red-capped Gum	Small	Residential verge
<i>Eucalyptus laeliae</i>	Darling range Ghost Gum	Large	Rural verge
<i>Eucalyptus marginata</i>	Jarrah	Large	Rural verge
<i>Eucalyptus patens</i>	Blackbutt	Large	Rural verge
<i>Eucalyptus torquata</i>	Coral gum	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Eucalyptus victrix</i>	Little Ghost Gum	Small/medium	Residential verge

Australian Natives (not from WA)			
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Smooth barked apple	Small	Parks
<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	Bottlebrush	Small	Residential verge / Roundabouts
<i>Callistemon salignus</i>	Willow bottlebrush	Small	Large residential verge / Parks
<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i>	Yellow gum	Medium	Parks
<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>	Ironbark	Small/medium	Large residential verge / Parks
<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Brush Box	Medium	Replacement only
<i>Melaleuca linarifolia</i>	Snow in summer	Small	Residential verge
<i>Melaleuca quinquinervia</i>	Broad Leaved Paperbark	Small/medium	Residential verge

Ornamentals			
<i>Fraxinus Griffithii</i>	Evergreen Ash	Medium	Residential verge
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>	Urbanite Green ash	Medium	Parks / Open areas
<i>Platanus acerifolia</i>	London plane	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Prunus cerasifora</i> 'Nigra'	Purple-Leaf Cherry-Plum	Small	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus callaeryana</i>	Capital Pear	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus callaeryana</i> 'Aristocrat'	Aristocrat Callery Pear	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Bradford'	Bradford Pear	Medium	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer'	Chanticleer Pear	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Redspire'	Redspire Pear	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Pyrus ussuriensis</i>	Manchurian Pear	Small/medium	Residential verge
<i>Zelkova serrata</i> 'Green Vase'	Green Vase 'Japanese Elm'	Medium	Residential verge

Exotic			
<i>Gleditsia tracanthos</i> var. <i>inermis</i>	Thornless Honeylocust	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	American Sweetgum	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Platanus orientalis</i>	Oriental plane	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	Pin Oak	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak	Large	Parks / open areas
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Chinese tallow	Small	Residential verge / Roundabouts