

Guidelines for gardens on footpaths including artificial turf

Fact Sheet

www.logan.qld.gov.au

Guidelines for plants or gardens on footpaths

Logan City Council has developed this guide to assist residents interested in installing plants or gardens on the footpath or verge outside their property.

The footpath or verge area is the land between the property boundary and road kerb. The area accommodates above and underground services such as water, sewerage, phone, gas and lighting.

These guidelines ensure the safety of walkers, road users, and making sure existing underground services are not impacted by your planned garden.

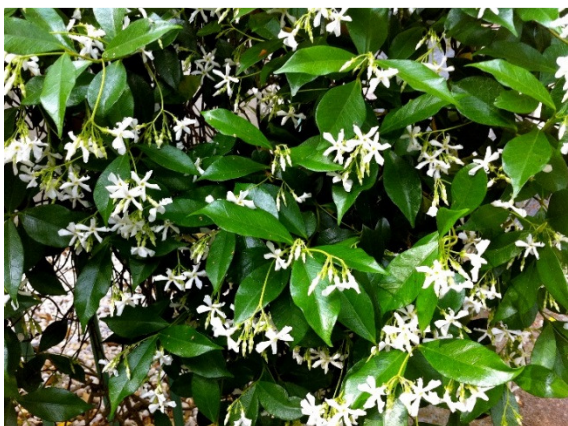
You cannot undertake gardens on a verge less than 3 metres wide.

The property owner is responsible for any gardens on the verge area outside their property.

Do I need permission to plant a garden or place artificial turf on the footpath?

Yes, you will need to apply online for permission. You will also need to make sure your planned garden or shrubs comply with council standards, considering the area of the garden and the types of plants you wish to plant.

<http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/planning-and-building/maintenance-and-works/footpaths>



Star Jasmine

Artificial Turf requirements

If you would like to incorporate artificial turf into your landscaping you will need to make sure:

- It will not extend beyond the frontage of adjoining properties
- It will not impede on the operations or maintenance activities of utilities or services (i.e. manhole covers, valves or inspection pits)
- It will not impact existing trees or root systems.
- It is to be laid on a compacted base of 100mm crusher dust or approved equivalent material.
- The edges of the artificial turf must be secured to a hard edge which is level with the finished surface level.
- It will not interfere with footpaths or other infrastructure, including street furniture and signs.
- The artificial turf fabric and base material must allow for free-draining and allow no changes or obstructions to stormwater drainage flow across the verge.



Captain Cook Bottlebrush

Do I need to provide space for pedestrians?

Yes. The landscaped area must not restrict pedestrian movements along a concrete pathway or footpath or footpath area (at least 1.2m clear width) or obstruct visibility from cars.

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How do I check for underground services?

Complete a Dial Before You Dig at www.1100.com.au search, which you will need to include with your application. You will need to ensure your garden does not affect any water or stormwater systems, utility or service infrastructure or the ability to access this infrastructure for maintenance and servicing.

Who is responsible if I damage any utilities while completing my garden?

The property owner and/or resident are responsible and will need to pay for any repairs to damaged infrastructure.

How wide can my garden be?

The width of your garden can be, from the property boundary, the **lesser** of either:

- 1800mm from the boundary of the property; or
- The distance, calculated as 1/3 of the total width of the verge from the property boundary.

What can I include in my garden?

Council has a list of approved plants which can be included in your garden. Plants which are poisonous or has thorns or spikes cannot be incorporated.

(<http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/planning-and-building/maintenance-and-works/footpaths>). Council's Parks branch is responsible for any footpath tree planting. If you wish to incorporate a tree please contact Council's Parks branch on (07) 3412 5338.

You are not able to include permanent structures or footings, loose stones, pebbles or sprinklers.

Who is responsible for maintaining a garden on the footpath (verge) area?

The landscape area must be maintained by the owner or occupier (resident) of the premises adjoining the footpath where the garden is to be located. This also includes the installation of any artificial turf.

I have bought a property with a garden on the footpath, am I responsible?

Yes, it is your responsibility to make sure the verge garden complies with Council's current guidelines. You may choose to either retain the garden or remove the garden and return the verge to a grassed area consistent with the surrounding area.

Do you live on a state controlled road?

If you live on a busy or major road, and are unsure if it is state controlled, please visit Council's website:

<http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/planning-and-building/maintenance-and-works/state-controlled-roads>

Do I need to provide a plan of the garden area?

If you are able to comply with Council's requirements and plants are from the approved plant list, you will not need a plan. We do recommend you plan your garden, to ensure you have considered other infrastructure including power poles, driveways, inspection plates, Telstra and water pits. You will still need to complete an application form and provide proof you have completed a Dial Before You Dig.

Maintaining underground services

From time to time Council or other service providers will be required to perform maintenance works on infrastructure within the footpath or verge area. In some cases this work may be emergency works and no notice to the owner or resident is possible. In these instances gardens may be impacted by these works, and Council cannot guarantee the garden will be replaced, other than with grass.



Tiny Trev

Council Discretion

Council has the discretion to remove any or all garden beds if they are not constructed or maintained to Council's satisfaction, or if a reasonable objection is raised by a public utility provider or others. In this instance Council will provide due notice to those responsible for the offending landscaped area to be removed and replaced with a standard treatment, generally turf. Should you fail to do so, Council may be forced to make good the road verge at your expense.

Should no action be taken within twenty-eight (28) days, Council will generally issue a compliance notice. Should there be further non-compliance, a penalty notice can be issued.

For more information

Phone 3412 5282

Visit www.logan.qld.gov.au

Email council@logan.qld.gov.au