

# Nature Strip Planting Guidelines Update Draft 2023

## Summary of Changes

The main updates to the guidelines involve adjustments to the clearances required near curbs, sidewalks, and trees, along with allowing the introduction of low grasses and groundcovers within these zones, as opposed to solely using turf.

A brief overview of the main revisions is below:

Existing Guidelines	Proposed New Guidelines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clearance of 500mm from the sidewalk</li> <li>• A clearance of 900mm from the kerb</li> <li>• A clearance of 1 meter from driveways and crossovers</li> <li>• A range of 2 meters (minimum) to 15 meters (maximum) around trees, determined by the DBH (diameter at breast height) multiplied by 12</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A clearance of 300mm from the sidewalk</li> <li>• A clearance of 600mm from the kerb</li> <li>• Retention of 1 meter clearance from driveways and crossovers</li> <li>• A reduction in tree clearance to a minimum of 1 meter</li> </ul>

Beyond the changes in clearances mentioned above, the new guidelines also encompass:

- Allowance for the planting of low grasses, groundcovers, and mulch within clearance areas, rather than being limited exclusively to turf.
- An increase of the maximum plant height to 1m, accompanied by additional clearance prerequisites — plants must not be within 2 meters of a driveway or pedestrian crossing, or within 10 meters of a corner or intersection.