Verge Policy and management guidelines overview

The underlying principle of the city's approach to managing verges in the road reserve is to encourage residents to:

- install and maintain soft landscaping which contributes to the aesthetic presentation of the streetscape
- apply sound environmental consideration to verge development through utilising low water demand plantings of species indigenous to the local area
- minimise the use of impervious surfaces to encourage infiltration of ground water where it falls
- meet the communities requirements for safety and protect the city’s obligations for duty of care.

Verge compliance:

- verge treatments are limited to low growing plants and ground covers that are not hazardous
- vegetation must be maintained to a maximum height of 500mm
- plantings must maintain a minimum clearance of 500 mm from any existing and/or proposed footpath and crossover
- reticulation, where proposed, does not present a hazard to either pedestrians or traffic
- the use of loose inorganic materials (e.g. gravels / rocks / bricks) is not supported
- the installation of hard landscaping elements to create garden edging or retain soil adjacent to any proposed or existing footpaths, crossovers, and or kerbs is not permitted
- the installation of synthetic turf as a verge treatment is not permitted due to a number of issues relating to its use
- the construction or installation of tree houses and other play structures and equipment within the verge is not considered appropriate for safety reasons
- the tethering of boats, trailers and other items to street trees, street lights and/or road signs is not permitted within the road reserve for safety reasons and the potential to compromise the health of the tree and/or damage infrastructure.

![Image: low growing native plants in a mulched bed.](image.jpg)

For further information please refer to the city's Verge Policy management guidelines available at [www.subiaco.wa.gov.au](http://www.subiaco.wa.gov.au)