

Trees, plants and environment

Council encourages residents to keep their neighbourhood looking nice. This means basic maintenance of the nature strip.

Road verges (nature strips in front of your house) play an important role in the environmental health, visual appeal and character of your neighbourhood. Council supports the opportunity for residents to beautify or enhance these spaces.

Planting, clearing or damaging vegetation on council land

You are permitted to plant a garden on your nature strip. The criteria to conduct this activity is self-assessable. For anything outside the self-assessable criteria, a permit is required.

Self-assessable verge gardens

Residents who wish to plant a garden on a nature strip must meet a set of criteria to ensure it is maintained in a safe condition. Contact council for further information on what planting options are available to residents.

**Activity involving clearing or interfering with vegetation on nature strips is not permitted without a permit from council.*

www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Environment/Trees-Plants-and-Gardens/Plant-a-verge-garden



Why a permit?

Council regulates planting on areas such as nature strips to ensure there is a safe pedestrian passage, visual amenity is maintained and there are no obstructions to vehicular traffic. Underground roots can also cause damage to services such as water, sewerage and power lines.

Tree clearing

It is an offence to damage or remove certain protected trees and vegetation on private property. Approval must be granted from council to conduct the below activities:

- Cutting down trees
- Chopping into or damaging the trunk of a tree
- Pruning to the extent that the tree is likely to die, or
- Clearing of plants below the tree canopy.

For more information contact council's Development Services visit the website at www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Development/Stay-Connected/Planning-Building-Plumbing-and-Development-Enquiries



What if a tree overhangs on my property?

If a tree is overhanging on to private property from council land you are allowed to prune the overhanging branches. Once pruned, you are then responsible for the green waste.

**If the branch limbs are overhanging more than 0.5m and as high as 2.5m from the ground, the area must be assessed by a council arborist. Refer queries to:*

www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/Pay-and-Apply/Tree-and-vegetation-management/Arborist-Request-Online-Form



Artificial turf on council-controlled road verge

Council does not support using artificial turf on residential road verges. Using artificial turf can cause an obstruction to access underneath water, sewer, electrical, gas and telecommunications. The natural environment will also be impacted due to the ecosystem failing to attract birds and other wildlife to the area.

Multicultural Welcome Hub

Find out where you can get support, how you can meet people and explore your new community. Listen to stories of other migrants.

www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/multicultural

Do you need language help?

If you have difficulty speaking or understanding English, you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450 and request to be transferred to Sunshine Coast Council on 5475 7272.



Translating online information

You can use Google Chrome to translate webpages into another language. Follow these steps to activate this function:

- On your computer, open Chrome.
- At the top right, click More Settings.
- At the bottom, click Advanced.
- Under "Languages," click Language.
- Check or uncheck "Offer to translate pages that aren't in a language you read."

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