

T10. Trees and Native Vegetation Policy

Policy Objective

This policy is to set guidelines to encourage and promote appropriate planting of native trees and vegetation within the Shire.

Policy Statement

The Shire of Dundas has a vast range of natural landscapes that have natural and cultural value. The development of streetscapes and public space should where possible, take account of naturally occurring plant communities and provide for the enhancement of ecological systems through the introduction of new landscape development.

The Shire is committed to environmental sustainability including conservation of flora, fauna and water, the use of renewable resources and a preference for water wise designs that is attractive, functional and cost-effective to maintain.

Citizenship / Awards

In order to encourage appropriate planting of trees within the Community and to commemorate the event, the Shire will provide an Australian native tree to be given to each new citizen as part of an award or citizenship ceremony.

Street Trees

Trees are to be chosen to reflect the local character and conditions and provide attractive streetscapes and public amenity in the form of shade, improved micro-climate and landscape amenity, and to ensure that trees do not interfere with lighting, paving or other public infrastructure. (Local native tree species are preferred)

Tree plantings in roads controlled by MRWA shall comply with MRWA standards.

Public Open Space

Where appropriate the Shire will limit the extent of grass lawns and ensure that planting takes advantage of and complements any naturally occurring flora. Plantings should minimise water use and on-going maintenance costs and provides a safe and attractive environment for pedestrians and users of public space.

The retention and enhancement of naturally occurring native vegetation is encouraged and plant species shall be selected to minimise water, fertiliser and on-going maintenance, with the use of local native species being preferred.

All plantings shall be mulched where appropriate with recyclable green waste or other approved material to minimise water consumption.

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Turf & Grass

The Shire will endeavour to ensure that grassed areas are only provided in appropriate locations that are useable by the public and complementary to landscape design, whilst providing for cost-effective maintenance and avoid small areas that are difficult or time-consuming to maintain. Where appropriate, native or ornamental grasses may be substituted for lawn or grass.

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