



Sydney2030/Green/Global/Connected



Self-assessment checklist

Gardening on your street with garden beds



We're thrilled that you are interested in greening and improving your street with planter boxes. Footpath gardening is a great way to meet your neighbours, get out in the fresh air and take a local patch of your city and make it beautiful.

Before you get started, we ask that you fill in this simple checklist ensuring you answer all questions relevant to your project. We want to make sure you keep your footpath accessible to all users and your project will be well-maintained and meet City guidelines.

If you can't answer 'yes' or 'NA' to all the questions in the checklist, talk to one of our officers about your project and they can offer advice on how to make it work.

01

Checklist for footpath gardens on nature strips

Tips before you start

- Try to use native or water-wise plants and organic products where possible.
 - Consider watering by hand with collected rainwater or recycled water (irrigation systems are not permitted) and try mulch to retain soil moisture.
 - As footpath nature strip gardens are on public footways, the City cannot take responsibility for any damage to gardens or their contents.
 - You are responsible for maintaining your garden and keeping it safe, clean, healthy and attractive; City officers may issue clean-up notices to residents or businesses who fail to maintain verge gardens in a safe and satisfactory condition.
 - Stay sunsafe while you garden.
 - Contact Dial Before You Dig to help locate any underground services on 1100.com.au or call 1100.
- You can get more information on footpath gardening, including the Footpath Gardening Policy on our website at cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community/participation

Completing the checklist

Make sure you answer 'yes' to all relevant points in the checklist – you can contact us if you have questions or queries.

Once completed send your checklist via:

Email: council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Post: Attention: Footpath Gardens,
City of Sydney, GPO Box 1591, Sydney NSW 2001

In person:

CBD Neighbourhood Service Centre
Level 2, Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street Sydney

Glebe Neighbourhood Service Centre
186 Glebe Point Road (cnr Wigram Road) Glebe

Green Square Neighbourhood Service Centre
100 Joynton Avenue, Zetland

Kings Cross Neighbourhood Service Centre
50 - 52 Darlinghurst Rd, Kings Cross

Redfern Neighbourhood Service Centre
158 Redfern Street Redfern

Phone: To speak to someone about your project call 02 9265 9333.



01/ Location of proposed footpath garden

N/A Yes No

01.01/ The footpath nature strip on which I will garden is not within the policy exclusion zone shown on the map below.

01.02/ **The footpath nature strip on which I will garden is not a raingarden.**
A raingarden is a water saving garden designed specifically to capture and filter storm water. Please contact the City of Sydney on 9265 9333 if you are uncertain.

01.03/ The nature strip on which I will garden is located on the public footpath outside my property.



02

Checklist for footpath gardens on nature strips

02/ Gardening on the footpath nature strip	N/A	Yes	No
02.01/ My footpath nature strip garden will not include raised edges such as bricks and fences.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.02/ My footpath nature strip garden will not have stakes, guide wires or protrusions which may cause a hazard to users of the footpath and road. It will not have spiky or tall vegetation which may block sight lines or impede people using the footpath, especially for pedestrians who are blind or have low vision.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.03/ All planting will be carried out by hand with no excavation deeper than 30cm. Mechanised tools and equipment will not be used and care will be taken around drain pipes.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.04/ I have contacted Dial Before You Dig and have identified any underground services.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.05/ My garden will not result in the planting, pruning or removal of trees.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.06/ I will leave a distance of 1 metre around tree trunks that are less than 300mm in diameter, to protect the health of trees and their root systems. For trees trunks greater than 300mm in diameter, 2m will be left. It is not permitted to cut damage or remove tree roots to facilitate planting.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Note – Gardening is not permitted in tree pits with grates, Terrabond, crushed granite, or granite setts. Residents may submit a request to enlarge tree pits to allow gardening at such places.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
02.07/ Access of 1.5m in width will be provided at least once every 6m through the garden.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
03.06/ My garden will not allow run-off of materials such as water, soil, mulch or debris onto the footpath, road or into drains.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
03/ Maintenance			
03.01/ My footpath nature strip garden will be maintained to ensure it is safe, healthy, tidy, and attractive. It will avoid the use of spiky or tall vegetation which may block sight lines or impede people using the footpath, especially for pedestrians who are blind or have low vision.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
03.02/ I will ensure my gardening activities will not disturb users of the footpath ie tools, materials and equipment will not encroach onto the public footpath.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
04/ Speak with your neighbours			
04.01/ Occupants of neighbouring properties have agreed to this footpath garden.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
04.02/ The owners' corporation of my strata scheme has agreed to the footpath garden.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

05/ Declaration

I have completed the above checklist accurately and honestly, and confirm that the planter box meets the requirements of this Policy.

Name: _____

Address of property: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Insurance note

The City will extend coverage under its liability insurance program to claims for injury or property damage arising out of footpath gardens, provided that they fully comply with the Footpath Gardening Policy and associated checklists. In addition to cover for the physical structures, the City will also extend its insurance cover to residents and community groups for any community gardening activities undertaken by them in compliant gardens.

Privacy Note

The purpose for which this information is being collected is for the City keep on record the completed checklists from residents or business owners who want to set up a footpath garden.



General Enquiries or after-hours assistance

Tel: 02 9265 9333

(24 hours, seven days a week)

Fax: 02 9265 9222

council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

DX: DX1251 SYDNEY

Street address

City of Sydney

Town Hall House

456 Kent Street

Sydney NSW 2000

Postal address

City of Sydney

Reply Paid 1591

Sydney NSW 2001