

NOTE: This Chapter should not be read in isolation. You may need to consider other chapters of this DCP when preparing your application.



CHAPTER G3: LANDSCAPING DESIGN GUIDELINES

Chapter G3: Landscaping Design Guidelines

Contents

1	Purpose.....	2
2	Application.....	2
3	Context.....	2
4	Objectives	2
5	Controls.....	3
6	Advisory Information.....	5
6.1	Landscape plan and planting schedule requirements.....	5
6.2	Other legislation or policies you may need to check.....	7

Figures

Figure 1: Example of Landscape Plan	8
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Tables

Table 1: Example of planting schedule required to be submitted.....	6
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Amendment history

Version Number	Date Adopted by Council	Commencement Date	Amendment Type
1	14 October 2014	22 October 2014	New
2	3 December 2019	18 December 2019	Amendment

1 Purpose

This purpose of this Chapter is to outline considerations for the landscaping of proposed **development** and to provide guidance for the preparation of development, **building** and landscaping plans.

2 Application

This Chapter applies to all **development** in Shoalhaven.

3 Context

The impact of **development** on surrounding environments can be reduced through appropriate integration of landscaping, **building** design and land use planning. Before determining a **development** application, **Council** will consider the suitability of the proposed **development**, including:

- The impact of the **development** on the environment;
- The effect of the **development** on the landscape or scenic quality of the locality;
- The character, location, siting, bulk, **scale**, shape, size, height, density, design or external appearance of that **development**; and
- Whether adequate provision has been made for the landscaping of the land to which the **development** application relates and whether any **trees** or **vegetation** on the land should be preserved.

4 Objectives

The objectives are to:

- i. Blend new **developments**, where appropriate, into the existing streetscape and neighbourhood character.
- ii. Enhance the appearance, amenity and energy efficiency of new **developments** for the users and for the **community** in general.
- iii. Provide landscaping within a **development** that relates to the scale and type of existing elements in the neighbouring landscape.
- iv. Design for winter sun and summer shade in landscape design and species selection for public and private spaces.
- v. Reduce the removal of **native vegetation** and dominant locally occurring native **trees**.
- vi. Restore the urban canopy (as appropriate) using local native **tree** and **vegetation** species.

5 Controls

Note: New landscape elements should consist of non-invasive species. Refer to *the Noxious Weeds Act 1993*, Noxious Weeds Regulation 2008, noxious weeds declarations and the [NSW Department of Primary Industries website](#).

Performance Criteria	Acceptable Solutions
<p>P1 Development minimises site disturbance and preserves the existing landscape elements which make a positive contribution to the character of the area, through appropriate site design and by retaining mature shade trees.</p>	<p>A1.1 Existing trees and landscape elements which make a positive contribution to the character of the area, especially semi-mature/mature shade trees, should be retained and integrated into the proposal.</p> <p>A1.2 Proposals to remove existing trees and landscape elements must propose suitable landscaping to retain streetscape character.</p> <p>Note: Where removal of a mature shade tree is proposed, this must be accompanied by sufficient justification.</p> <p>A1.3 Tree planting and landscaping considers amenity by providing summer shade and winter sun.</p>
<p>P2.1 The landscape plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is designed to meet user requirements taking into account maintenance, exercise opportunities, shade provision and aesthetic quality. Enhances the appearance of the streetscape through the provision of substantial landscaping to the street frontage. Integrates the development into the streetscape. <p>P2.2 The landscape plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specifies the location and species of trees, shrubs and ground cover. Uses vegetation types and landscaping styles that blend the development in with the streetscape. 	<p>A2.1 For development other than a new dwelling house or alterations and additions to a dwelling house, landscaping must be in accordance with an approved landscape plan for the site, prepared by a suitably qualified landscape professional.</p> <p>A2.2 The landscape plan must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relate to the site plan for the proposed development. Address P2.1 and P2.2. Include the landscape plan and planting schedule requirements at Section 6.1 of this Chapter, as appropriate to the scale of the development. <p>Note: An example of a detailed landscape plan is provided at Figure 1.</p> <p>Sufficient justification should be provided in an application if proposing to remove a</p>

Chapter G3: Landscaping Design Guidelines

- Complements the functions of the street and reinforce desired traffic speed and behaviour.
- Is an appropriate scale relative to both the street reserve width and the **building** bulk.
- Considers personal safety (safety by design) by ensuring good visibility and lighting at **dwelling** entries, along paths and driveways and avoids shrubby landscaping near thoroughfares.
- Contributes to energy efficiency and amenity by providing substantial shade in summer especially to west-facing windows and open **car park** areas and admitting winter sunlight to outdoor and indoor living areas.
- Improves privacy and minimises overlooking between **dwelling**s.
- Minimises risk of damage to proposed **buildings**, overhead and underground power lines and other services.
- Minimises the risk of damage due to bushfire if the land is within a bushfire prone area as mapped by **Council**.
- Retains or plants mature shade **trees** to assist in reducing the urban heat effect.
- Reduces the removal of **native vegetation** and dominant locally occurring native trees.

Note: When considering the planting of new or replacement **trees** or **vegetation**, locally occurring native **tree** and **vegetation** species are preferable, including non-eucalypt **tree** species where appropriate.

mature shade **tree**. Refer also to the provisions in DCP Chapter G4: Tree and Vegetation Management where the removal or **pruning** of **vegetation** is proposed.

P3 Paving is designed to be fit for the intended purpose, low maintenance and complementary to the development.

A3.1 Where paving is provided to driveways, walkways and in the vicinity of garbage bin enclosures, letterboxes and clotheslines such paving should:

- Use materials and colours which complement the **development**.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feature nonslip finishes and be suitable for use by people with disabilities. • Minimise maintenance requirements where appropriate and practicable, taking into account the ownership of and proposed management of the landscaped area, particularly in bushfire prone areas.
P4	Street trees are included and retained/replaced, where appropriate, including in car parks, to provide shade and improve streetscape amenity.	<p>A4.1 Street tree planting that provides summer shade, winter sun and enhances site lines for pedestrians shall be included and retained/replaced, where appropriate.</p> <p>A4.2 Street trees and trees within the road reserve shall be positioned to maximise shade opportunities for pedestrians and car parking and minimise disturbance to service lines.</p> <p>A4.3 Shade trees should be provided at a rate of one tree per row of six (6) car parking spaces or through the provision of shade to at least 50% of the car park.</p>

6 Advisory Information

6.1 Landscape plan and planting schedule requirements

Depending on the scale of the development, the landscape plan should include:

- Detailed location of both existing and proposed building structures, storage areas including information on the treatment of these with external materials and screens.
- Detailed design of landscaping including edging, surface treatment, planting schedules and soft and hard landscaping treatments. The planting schedule should be provided in a table format (**Table 1**), with an identification symbol, a botanical and common name, pot size, estimated mature height, spacing and quantity of each species proposed.
- Location, height and species of existing vegetation and trees.
- The street reserve, carriageway, parking bays, footpaths, cycleway systems, street lighting and driveways.
- Detailed design of road, parking areas, above and below ground drainage.
- Detailed design of service bays, standing areas, bin and recycling areas.

Chapter G3: Landscaping Design Guidelines

- Detailed site contours and design of proposed earth cuts/fills and mounding within landscaping areas together with instruction on soil preparation, ground works treatment and proposed retaining walls.
- Arrangement and specification of all plant material including **trees**, shrubs and ground covers.
- Layout and selection of outdoor furniture, lighting, signs, etc.
- General information on fencing, access points, pavement materials and on-going maintenance requirements.
- Cross section through entire site indicating major level changes, existing retained and proposed landscaping that demonstrates the proposed finished landscape (hard and soft).
- Existing **trees** and significant **vegetation** on the site and identify those to be retained and those proposed to be removed.

Note: Justification must be provided when proposing to remove mature shade **trees**. Information on proposed planting of replacement semi-mature **trees** is required.

- Detail of any works proposed in the streetscape/road reserve/public domain including: **tree** planting, landscaping, footpaths and pathways, walls, edging, embankments, furniture, lighting and other elements proposed within the public domain.
- Indicative treatment of any floodway and drainage lines.
- Methods employed to minimise soil erosion.

It is advisable to prepare separate plans to show planting (**trees**, shrubs etc.) and hard landscaping elements (roads, paving, etc). The north point and scale of the drawing should be either 1:100 or 1:200 to enable sufficient detail to be shown.

Table 1: Example of planting schedule required to be submitted

Planting Schedule						
Symbol	Botanical Name	Common name	Pot Size	Mature Height	Spacing	Quantity
CG	<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	Casuarina	200mm	10.0m	1m	3

An example of a landscape plan is shown at **Figure 1**.

6.2 Other legislation or policies you may need to check

Note: This section is not exclusive and you may be required to consider other legislation, policies and other documents with your application.

The [Shoalhaven Plant Species List](#) is a reference guide covering gardens in private property, open space parks and reserves, as well as street trees for road reserves. It provides plants which are local (NSW South Coast bioregion from Berry – NSW Southern boarder) and native (Australian) plants. Plants may be selected outside of the species list.

Council Policies & Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Town Street Tree Planting Strategy• Shoalhaven Plant Species List• Grow me instead brochure
External Policies & Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmental Weeds
Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Noxious Weeds Act 1993</i>• Noxious Weeds Regulation 2008

Chapter G3: Landscaping Design Guidelines

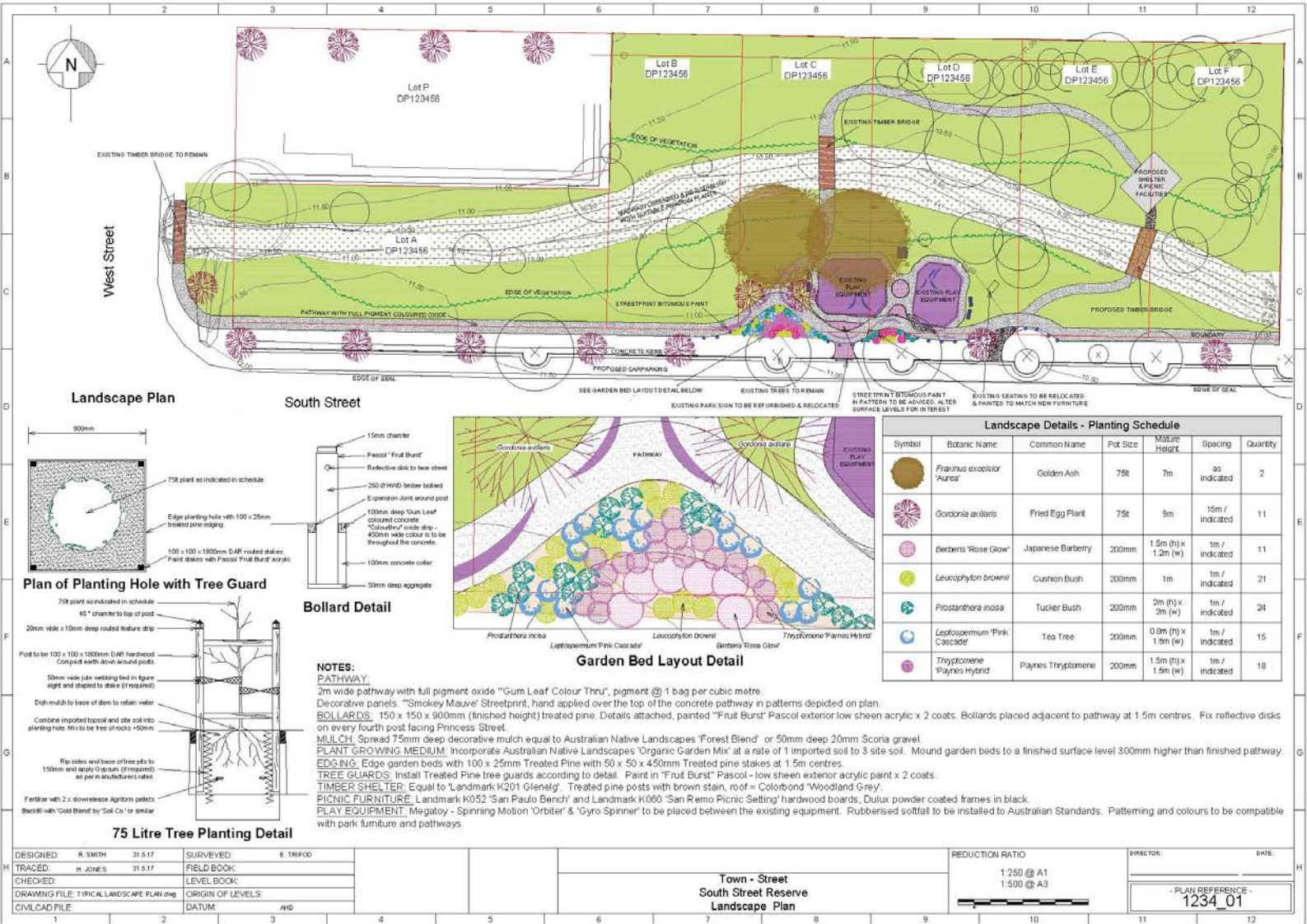


Figure 1: Example of Landscape Plan