



KENTISH COUNCIL POLICY

NATURE STRIP MOWING POLICY

Policy Number 07:07:2009

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OBJECTIVE	The objective of this policy is to set out both Council's responsibility and property owner's role in relation to the mowing of nature strips, in order to provide a safe, functional and aesthetically pleasing streetscape.
POLICY	Adopted 17 March 2009 Minute 8.2.3 Reviewed 15 September 2015 Minutes 11.4.3

1. APPLICATION:

This policy applies to all Council controlled lands between property boundaries and Council controlled roads in the urban areas of the Sheffield, Railton & Wilmot townships.

2. DEFINITIONS:

Nature strip – The area of land between a property boundary and the edge of a roadway. The primary purpose of this land is to facilitate pedestrian movement alongside the roadway and provide an area for infrastructure provision.

Acceptable condition of nature strips –

A nature strip should be maintained to a reasonable level of appearance. This usually translates to the regular mowing of grass throughout the year, in order to keep the nature strip aesthetically pleasing and conforming to the overall streetscape of our urban areas.



3. METHOD OF CONTROL:

Council's responsibility regarding nature strips

Council will maintain nature strips adjoining or within:

- Public reserve areas such as parks & reserves
- Council facilities such as public buildings & recreation grounds.
- Central business district
- Areas of neglect, where nature strips create an eyesore or safety hazard.

Council will provide a Special Needs Mowing Program to maintain the nature strips of those residents who have a legitimate reason or who provide evidence of a medical condition which prohibits such capability. These nature strips will only be cut approximately five times per year.

All other unkempt nature strips will be mown once or twice per year depending on the location and terrain.

Property occupants role regarding nature strips

Council lacks adequate resources to effectively maintain these diverse areas, which taken together, constitute a large and sparsely spread out area of land. As such property occupants' efforts are required in order to maintain nature strips throughout our urban areas to an acceptable & reasonable condition. Property occupants' maintenance of nature strips not only benefits the adjoining property, but also enhances the utility, attractiveness and value of the community as a whole.

4. RESPONSIBILITY:

If residents have a medical condition or legitimate reason as to why they are unable to maintain their nature strip, they need to provide a medical certificate or state their reasons in a letter addressed to the General Manager. Written submissions will be assessed according to the resident's individual circumstances.

5. OBJECTION:

The Asset and Infrastructure Manager is responsible for the overall management of this policy.