

NATURE STRIP ALTERATIONS

The City of Ballarat recognises that nature strip alterations are sometimes driven by necessity; some residents require a solid surface for mobility or other safety related reasons.

Some residents may not be physically able to perform the maintenance requirements on a grassed nature strip. In these instances, the application of an appropriately compacted aggregate may be appropriate. In other instances, residents wish to improve the amenity of their nature strip with appropriately compacted aggregate. The City of Ballarat recognises the benefits of increased community engagement with nature strips and their beautification.

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- Visit 1100.com.au to make a free Dial Before You Dig enquiry.
 - Existing turf to a depth of 75-100mm must be removed before back filling.
 - Excavation should not negatively impact any trees with great care taken around roots, not cutting any greater than 30mm in diameter.
 - Aggregate must be trafficable; this means it must be compacted and have a particle size **less than 10mm**.
 - Nature strips must remain level with all constructed infrastructure, e.g. kerb, utility pits, crossovers, etc and be free of trip hazards, e.g. pavers, edging etc.
 - No alterations are permissible in a heritage overlay area



Figure 1 75-100mm of existing turf removed and replaced with compacted aggregate

The following items are not permitted on nature strips:

- Irrigation systems
- Temporary or permanent electric wiring such as for the lighting of trees
- Letterboxes
- Permanent covering such as concrete or asphalt
- Synthetic turf
- Any large items of structures, other than approved planter boxes

ROAD MANAGEMENT ACT 2004 - SECT 107
Liability of road authority



A road authority does not have a statutory duty or a common law duty to perform road management functions in respect of a public highway which is not a public road or to maintain, inspect or repair the roadside of any public highway (whether or not a public road).

As per the statement above Council has no duty to inspect maintain, inspect or repair the roadside being the Nature strip.