



POLICY NO:-
Infr CP058 – ROADSIDE VEGETATION

GOVERNANCE INFORMATION			
Procedure Link:	NA	Administrative Policy Link:	NA

ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION						
History	1	ENG18	OCM: 26/06/02	Res:	Synopsis	Policy created.
	1	ENG18	OCM: 10/05/12	Res:	Synopsis	Reviewed Policy Adopted
Version	2	CP058	SCM 26/07/18	Res: 251-18	Synopsis	Reviewed and Adopted by Council
Version	3	Infr CP058	SCM 30/09/20	Res: 270-20	Synopsis	Reviewed and Adopted by Council
Version	4	Infr CP058	OCM 28/09/22	Res: 243-22	Synopsis	Reviewed and Adopted by Council
Version	4	Infr CP058	OCM 23/10/24	Res: 275-24	Synopsis	Reviewed and Adopted by Council

1. RESPONSIBLE DIRECTORATE

Infrastructure

2. PURPOSE OR OBJECTIVE

To ensure that clearing of roadsides is completed in a professional and satisfactory manner.

3. POLICY

3.1 POLICY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH EXISTING LEGISLATION

The following Acts and any associated Regulations may have specific requirements pertaining to the management of road reserves and should be consulted prior to any roadside verge works.

State legislation:

- Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972
- Agriculture and Related Resources Protection Act 1976
- Bush Fires Act 1954
- Conservation and Land Management Act 1984
- Environmental Protection Act 1986
- Heritage Act 2018
- Land Administration Act 1997 ~~1933~~
- Local Government Act 1995
- Main Roads Act 1930
- Mining Act 1978
- Soil and Land Conservation Act 1945
- State Energy Commission Supply Act 1979
- Water Authority Act 1984

Commonwealth legislation:

- Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

3.2 POLICY TO ADDRESS CONSERVATION ISSUES

3.2.1 Directional Felling Of Vegetation

Vegetation that is to be removed shall be felled as far as practicable and safe in the direction that minimises damage to surrounding vegetation.

3.2.3 Disposal Of Excess Waste Materials

Tree litter and excess material left over from verge clearing activities during road construction shall be either:

1. Mulched to an suitable consistency and spread at the site if the material is from native, healthy and disease free vegetation; or

2. Removed and disposed of at a designated site of low conservation value specified by the Shire's Environment Officer or representative.

3.2.4 Transfer of Soil and Materials

Wherever possible and especially in high conservation areas, that soil or materials used for road construction and maintenance operations shall not to be taken from identified disease infested sites.

In the event of major works that modify existing indigenous vegetation on a road side or where verges have become denuded of vegetation then rehabilitation of verges should be encouraged following the guidelines proposed by the Roadside Conservation Committee.

3.3 POLICY TO ADDRESS CLEARING AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES

3.3.1 Clearing and Maintenance of Roadside Vegetation

When undertaking road construction and maintenance activities the Shire will consult the Handbook of Environmental Practice for Road Construction and Maintenance Works as published by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions.

3.3.2 Weed Control

Weed control methods that minimise disturbance to native vegetation will be implemented using contemporary and best practice methods.

3.4 POLICY TO ADDRESS MANAGEMENT ISSUES

3.4.1 Proposals to Clear Vegetation

All proposals to clear vegetation by others on a road reserve must be submitted to the CEO in writing and should detail the location, number of trees and type of vegetation to be removed.

3.4.2 Applications to Clear Vegetation by Utility Providers

Service authorities operating in the Shire of Dardanup be advised of the necessity to consult with the Shire when planning to extend or maintain activities which involve the disturbance of road verge vegetation and that they be informed of high conservation verge areas and the appropriate practices in these areas.

3.4.3 Written Authorisation Processes

The removal of roadside vegetation by others under an exemption of the Environmental Protection Act 1984 must be authorised by the CEO in writing, prior to the commencement of such clearing. The authorisation may specify the conditions of the clearing process in terms of the policies outlined above. Clearing to be carried out within 3 months of written approval, after which time the approval lapses.

The removal of roadside vegetation by others that will require a clearing permit under the Environmental Protection Act 1984 must be requested to the Chief Executive Officer in writing, prior to seeking a permit from the Department of Water & Environment Regulation. The CEO may or may not support the proposed clearing and will provide such advice in writing to accompany the clearing permit application.

3.4.4 On- Site Implementation

Either the Shire Principal Works Supervisor or the designated contractor be given the onsite responsibility to ensure that no indigenous vegetation beyond the working zone be removed, disturbed or damaged.

3.4.5 Verge Tree Planting

Community groups or individuals wishing to plant verge trees are required to submit, in writing, plans of tree species and locations for planting to the Council and the Council will decide upon the suitability of the proposal.

3.5 VEGETATION

All roadside revegetation projects to be only of trees that are native to the area.

3.6 REVEGETATION PLAN

The Shire will include roadside revegetation proposals on his design plans for all reconstruction projects in Rural areas of the Shire.