

VIBRANT VERGES

Greening Verges in Campbelltown



Development guidelines

Suitable plants

What NOT to plant

VIBRANT VERGES

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Greening Verges in Campbelltown

The verge (or nature strip) is the Council-owned area between the property boundary and the kerb (or edge of the roadway) and includes the footpath.

The verge provides an opportunity to beautify your street as well contribute to greening our city. With climate change contributing to higher temperatures, greening of our streets can help cool your suburb. Ground surface areas that are planted and watered can be up to 10°C cooler than paved areas on a hot day.

The City of Campbelltown has approximately 500km of verges and is not able to develop and maintain them all, other than making them safe and accessible, and planting and managing street trees.

Residents are encouraged to develop and maintain their verge area but there are guidelines and rules around how this is done so as to ensure safety and accessibility for all members of our community.

Any works or development undertaken on the verge (including planting) needs to be approved by Council and is guided by the Road Verge Development and Maintenance Policy (available at www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au).



VIBRANT VERGES

Residents wishing to develop their verge must ensure the development does not:

- prevent any pedestrian from walking along the verge area in preference to walking on the roadway, regardless of whether a footpath has been constructed or not;
- prevent any Service Authority or the Council from installing new services or maintaining existing services; or
- include installation of artificial turf.

When developing a verge, keep in mind:

- The verge must provide a trafficable area at least 1.5m wide.
- Verge plantings are to be no more than 500mm high – if you don't have a street tree and would like one please contact Council. Street trees remain under the management of Council.
- Choose drought tolerant plants with a preference for indigenous species
- When your application is approved be sure to Dial Before You Dig on 1100 before starting any digging in the verge.
- If you have a street tree, be careful to avoid damaging the root system.

A "Road & Verge Authorisation Form SECTION 221" (at www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au) must be completed if a resident would like to develop their verge area.

Any verge developed by a resident must be fully maintained (including watering) by the resident and any plantings should be kept in reasonable health and not overgrown with weeds. Where property owners choose not to or are unable to maintain the verge adjacent to their property, Council will:

- ensure the verge surface is even and free of trip hazards
- treat any verges where proclaimed pest plants have been identified
- spray weeds/overgrown grass as required.

Suitable plants for the Verge Development Program in Campbelltown

Council encourages the planting of local native species in verges but particularly in the higher biodiversity areas of Athelstone, Rostrevor and along creek lines.

The plants listed in the following pages will enhance the streetscape within your area, and also provide sources of food and shelter for native insects, birds and animals.

The aspect and dimensions of your verge, along with seasonal variation, may govern the plant selection suitable for your area. All plants placed in the verge must be maintained to below 0.5m to ensure adequate sight distances for traffic and pedestrians.

Council provides some support to residents through specific Verge Development Programs.

Visit: www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/development/undertaking-works-on-council-land/verges-and-naturestrips to find out more.

Plants available through these programs are subject to Council suppliers. Plants outside of these programs should be sourced from either local or community nurseries.

If a street tree is already in your verge, care needs to be taken to not damage its roots when putting in new plants. Also consideration needs to be given to the shade tolerance of the new plants.

Native Species

Native fuchsia

Small rounded shrub with red, bell shaped flowers.
Provides food resources for birds and insects.
Full sun tolerant.



Correa pulchella

Native lilac

A rambling, and space requiring, creeping plant with dark green leaves and lilac to purple pea-shaped flowers. Prefers part shade.



Hardenbergia violacea

Berry saltbush

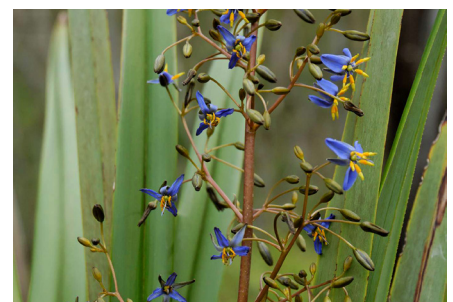
Spreading perennial groundcover to small shrub with blue-green foliage and red berries.



Atriplex semibaccata

Black-anther flax-lily

Small perennial with strap like leaves that spreads via underground stems. Hanging blue flowers with black anthers and yellow bases.
Prefers part shade.



Dianella revoluta var. *revoluta*

VIBRANT VERGES

Clasping goodenia

Small, spreading shrub with lime green leaves and yellow flowers. Prefers part shade.



Goodenia amplexans

Native primrose

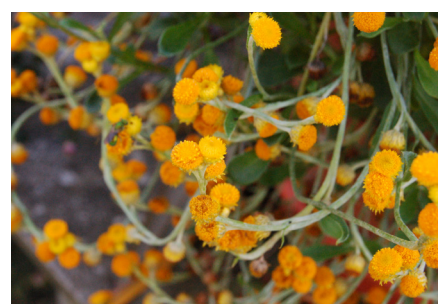
Small hardy groundcover suitable for planting in rockeries or as a border plant.



Goodenia blackiana

Common everlasting

An evergreen groundcovering perennial plant, with silvery grey foliage and a profusion of golden yellow button flowers throughout the year. A hardy, low maintenance plant. Good for massed plantings.



Chrysocephalum apiculatum

Pale fanflower

Ground running annual or perennial herb with bright green leaves and pale blue, purple to white flowers. Full sun or part shade.



Scaevola albida

Lavender grevillea

Low spreading compact shrub. Grey-green foliage with white to red flowers. Full sun to part shade.



Grevillea lavandulacea

Climbing saltbush

Hardy, low growing plant that will tolerate extended dry periods. Leaves blue/grey. Grows well in part shade. Red fleshy fruit/flowers most of the year.



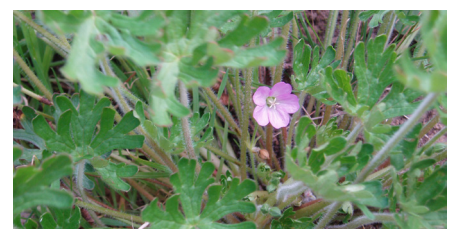
Einadia nutans

Native geranium (retrosum or solanderi)

Small herb with green leaves and pink to white flowers. Prefers a part shade/sheltered position



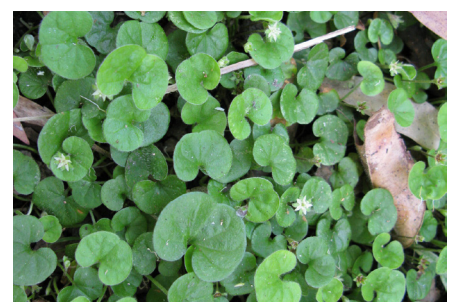
Geranium retrosum



Geranium solanderi

Kidney plant

A good lawn substitute, this plant has a vigorous creeping habit that forms a dense mat. The foliage is small mid to dark green leaves shaped like a kidney. Small white flowers in spring and summer. It prefers a full sun to part shade position in the garden that has moist and well drained soils.



Dichondra repens

VIBRANT VERGES

Native flax

A short lived perennial with sky blue flowers in spring and summer, followed by seed pods with numerous edible seeds. Tends to die back in late summer, and reshoot in spring.



Linum marginale

Clustered finger flower

Small shrub with pale to deep bluish-purple flowers, yellow stamens and dull green linear shaped leaves.



Cheiranthra alternifolia

Horny cone-bush

Small shrub with prickly leaves and yellow flowers that occur in spring at the ends of the branches but may be partly obscured by the foliage. A hardy species for temperate climates which develops a lignotuber and will tolerate severe pruning if needed.



Isopogon ceratophyllus

Running postman

A prostrate or twining shrub with red pea flowers, this plant makes a great ground cover or a restrained climber. Flowers from winter to summer. It has a spread of around a metre and a half, and has leathery green leaves.



Kennedia prostrata

Lomandra multiflora

A small grass-like plant with stiff grey-green leaves from 250 - 850 mm high. The creamy, yellow flowers occur in clusters around the base of the leaves during spring.



Lomandra multiflora

Eutaxia microphylla

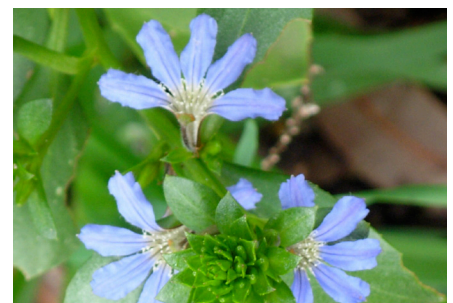
A prickly ground cover for small areas. Responds well to hard pruning. Hardy over extended dry periods and tolerant of a wide range of soils. Attracts native butterflies, caterpillar food plant.



Eutaxia microphylla var. *microphylla*

Fan flowers/hand flowers

A hardy ground covering plant to add colour for many months of the year. Peak flowering times are spring and again in summer and autumn, with spot flowers at other times, with a profusion of blue-mauve fan shaped flowers.



Scaevola sp

Lagoon saltbush

Prostrate herb. A hardy ground cover with a dense matting effect which suppresses weeds and stabilizes soil. Requires good drainage. Attracts native butterflies, caterpillar food plant.



Atriplex suberecta

VIBRANT VERGES

Sweet appleberry

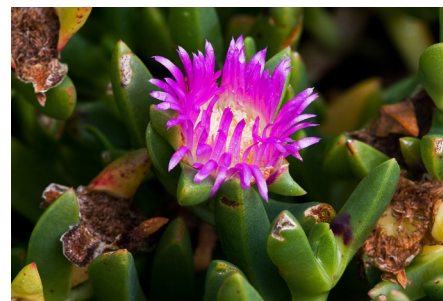
A light climbing plant with decorative flowers and small, sweet edible fruits, which can be eaten raw or cooked. They have a sweet aniseed taste. Easy to grow, it will grow to a shrub in an open setting, or a light climber if given something to climb on. Likes a sunny spot.



Billardiera cymosa

Karkalla

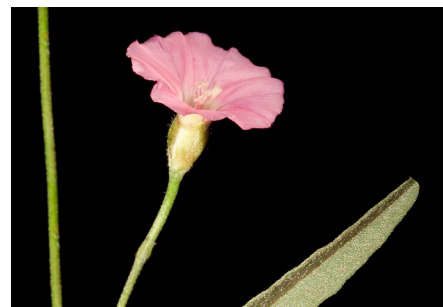
A ground covering perennial succulent from coastal areas, which can spread to 3 metres wide. It has large, silky purple flowers in spring and summer. Drought, salt and somewhat frost resistant. The leaves are edible and have a salty crunch, ripe fruit is edible, tasting like fig with a salty tang.



Carpobrotus rossii

Australian bindweed

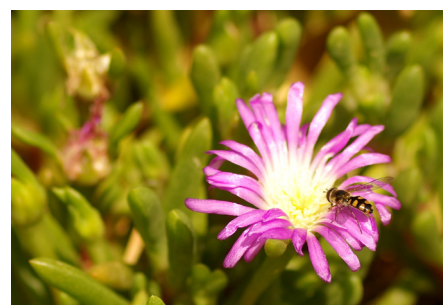
Colourful twiner with green leaves which can be seen in large clumps on fences. Spring/summer flowers are pale to bright pink.



Convolvulus remotus

Round leaved pigface

Tough and useful groundcover which does well on a wide range of soil types.



Disphyma crassifolium

Common emu bush

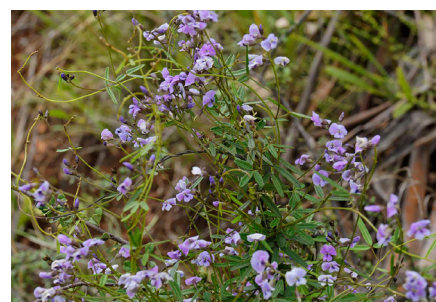
Groundcover - low, ground-hugging shrub. The leaves are variable in size and shape and there is a range of flower colours.



Eremophila glabra

Twining glycine

Twining herb with long stems. Flowers are small pea flowers from pale pink through mauve to pale blue, held in small loose clusters near the upper leaves. Flowers are a source of nectar and pollen for native insects, including bees and wasps, and the leaves are food for caterpillar species.



Glycine clandestina

Rough halganian

A small perennial shrub to around half a metre tall and wide, bearing intense blue flowers mainly in spring, and sporadically through the rest of the year. Can be cut back hard if needed and is a food plant for some butterfly species.



Halgania cyanea

Creeping boobialla

An easy care low ground cover which creates a dense mat of fine-leaved foliage with purple toned new growth. It gets small white flowers in spring through summer. Great to deter weed growth and can be a lawn substitute for low traffic places. Grows to around 3metres wide and 30 cms high.



Myoporum parvifolium

VIBRANT VERGES

Windmill grass

Tufted shin-high clumped grass to 45 cm tall with pale green leaves. An umbrella-like flowerhead up to 30 cm wide, purple to black.



Chloris truncata

Scented grass

A knee high tussock grass also known as Australian lemon grass which is very easy care and hardy. It is drought and frost tolerant. Once established, cutting back the foliage will encourage fresh new growth.

The leaves have a strong lemon scent when crushed.



Cymbopogon ambiguous

Silky blue-grass

Erect, perennial knee-high tussock grass with flat, bluish-purple leaves. Flowers in spring/summer. Slash thatch buildup in tussocks Possible food plant for butterflies/caterpillars.



Dichanthium sericeum

Wallaby grass

Knee high tussock grass. Blue-green tufting perennial, can develop pinkish tinges. Given adequate moisture, the leaves will remain green all year round. Should be cut back periodically to encourage new growth.



Austrodanthonia spp

Short stem flax lily

Rush whose flowers in spring with pale blue flowers set in the base of the plant, followed by blue edible berries in summer. Grows best in full sun to part shade and is a very drought tolerant.



Dianella brevicaulis

Knobby club rush

Extremely hardy and fast growing upright to gently weeping sedge with deep green cylindrical foliage that holds its colour all year round.



Ficinia nodosa

Tussock grass

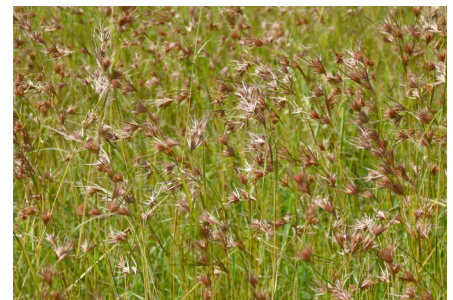
Elegant, versatile, knee high native tussock grass. Happy in any soil, especially wetter areas. Feathery flowerheads in summer.



Poa labillardieri

Kangaroo grass

A tufted, perennial grass that forms spreading or upright clumps, usually about 0.5 metres high. Is very hardy in most soils and prefers a sunny to semi-shade position. The species can withstand extended dry periods once established.



Themeda triandra

VIBRANT VERGES

Non-Native Species

Blue marguerite

Shrubby perennial from South Africa that has small, blue daisy-like flowers with yellow centres



Felicia amelloides

Grevillea species

Choose varieties that remain compact or low spreading. Evergreen groundcover with deep green needle-like leaves and orange-pink or red flowers. May attract birds.



Grevillea juniperina 'molongolo'

English lavender

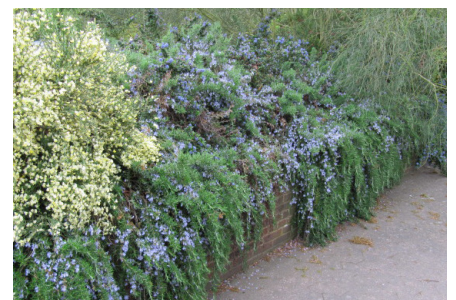
Evergreen shrub with linear, grey-silver-green foliage and spikes of lavender-blue spikes.



Lavandula angustifolia

Prostrate rosemary

Low-spreading, evergreen shrub or groundcover with green, leathery, aromatic leaves and pale-blue flowers.



Rosmarinus prostratus

Eriostemon species

Evergreen shrub with aromatic, blue-green foliage and starry, waxy, white flowers.



Eriostemon myoporoides

Coleonema species

Small shrub, with aromatic, green foliage and tiny, starry, pink flowers.



Coleonema pulchellum

Clivia species

Clump forming perennial with dark green, shiny, strap-like leaves and orange-red, trumpet-shaped flowers.



Clivia miniata

Dianella species

Evergreen perennial clumping plant with strap-like leaves, and clusters of nodding, star-shaped, bright blue to purple flowers which are followed by glossy, deep blue berries.



Dianella tasmanica

VIBRANT VERGES

Dietes species

This genus contains six species of evergreen, clumping perennials from Africa that have leathery, erect, sword-like leaves and iris-like flowers.



Dietes grandiflora

Lomandra species

Medium sized grass-like plant with green, strap-like foliage and yellow flower heads.



Lomandra longifolia

Liriope species

This genus contains five species of evergreen, clumping perennials from Asia that may have foliage so dark in colour that it appears black. Flowers range from white to pale purple.



Liriope muscari

Plants to avoid

The following plants can become problem weeds if they escape from the garden. Many have become serious weeds of our National Parks and natural vegetation areas. If planted in the verge the risk of them spreading is increased so please avoid planting them. Many of them are now prohibited from sale in South Australia so you should not find them in a nursery but they can still be found in people's gardens.

Gazania



Agapanthus



Fountain grass



Milkwort



Lavenders other than English



Ivy



Blue periwinkle



Euryops daisy



Sparaxis



VIBRANT VERGES

Plants to avoid

Watsonia



Ixia



Arum lily



White morning glory



Bindweed



Verbena



Sweet violet



Winter jasmine



Potato vine



A cultivation guide: *how you can help your plants*

Aim to plant in the cooler months ideally after first rain in autumn when the soils will stay moist and the plants have time to develop a good root system before the weather warms up.

Before planting

- Water plants at least half an hour before planting.
 - Dig a hole at least twice as wide as the pot and a bit deeper than the entire plant root ball.
 - Fill the hole with water and let soak in.
 - A handful of compost may be added to the bottom of the hole and mixed with soil.
-

Planting

- Remove the plant from its pot or plastic bag.
 - Place the plant in the hole so the top of the root ball is slightly lower than ground level.
 - Replace excavated soil around the plant making sure that all of the root ball is covered.
 - Make sure there is a slight depression or “water well” around the plant adequate to hold about 10 litres of water.
 - Lightly pack the soil down around the plant.
 - Give the plant a good watering. Adding a root stimulant (e.g. Seasol) at this early stage can help root establishment.
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Care and maintenance

- Water plants twice a week in dry periods at least for the first summer.
- Keep the area covered with mulch and control weed growth for best result.



VIBRANT VERGES

How do I obtain Council approval to develop my verge?

If you have decided to improve your verge and have an idea of the plants you would like to grow, contact council to gain approval and assistance. The process is outlined below:

Plan your verge keeping in mind requirements for pedestrian access and sight lines. These are outlined in the attached Terms and Conditions.

Complete the Verge Development Application Form – available from the Council office or on the website www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au.

Sketch your proposed development, including a brief description of plants, shrubs or groundcovers.

Drop off the completed sketch and application form to the Council Administration Office at 172 Montacute Road, Rostrevor or email a scanned copy to: mail@campbelltown.sa.gov.au.

Public safety & Council rights

For public safety purposes, Council will maintain its own and other Service Authorities access and rights over verges and any road reserves. Council will determine the type of development permitted on verges, as set out in Council's Road Verge Development and Maintenance Policy. Any verge development needs to comply with the policy.

Council reserves the right to construct a footpath on verge areas at its discretion, and in doing so may remove any existing plants, shrubs, groundcover or decorative features. Other service & utility providers may disturb the verge area to install or maintain services and there is no recourse for reimbursement or extra materials or work should this occur.

Any form of development that prevents pedestrian access to or along the verge is not permitted.

A full version of Council's Road Verge Development and Maintenance Policy is available for free download at Council's website www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au or for inspection at the Council's administration office during ordinary business hours.

Terms & Conditions

Services

The verge area may be occupied (above or below the ground) by the following:

- Underground electricity cables
- Overhead electricity wiring and poles
- Telecommunications cables, pits, poles etc.
- Gas mains, water mains and connections, sewer mains and connections
- Council stormwater drainage systems (including the concrete kerbing)
- Council footpath (existing or proposed)
- Council street furniture, signage, seats, bus shelters, indicator posts
- Mail delivery infrastructure

Any proposed development of the verge must ensure that areas in which Service Authorities have any rights are not planted so as to cause damage to these services or make their maintenance unduly difficult.

Irrigation Systems

Residents may be authorised to install belowground irrigation systems (including pop-up sprinklers, below ground drippers and 'leakypipe' systems) in accordance with the following:

- The system is to be installed within the verge area in front of the resident's property.
- Pipework is to be a minimum of 200 mm below the surface.

- Sprinkler points must be a minimum of 100 mm clear of the back of the kerb, footpath and driveway apron edges
 - The resident is responsible for the detection, alteration, or any damage caused to any other services (gas, telecommunications etc.) as a result of excavation for the installation.
 - The total cost, including surface reinstatement, is to be met by the resident.
 - During construction all trenches must be barricaded or flagged off. Council will accept no liability for injury to the public caused as a result of work in progress.
 - The spray from sprinklers must not extend over the roadway or footpath.
 - Due regard is to be given to the public when selecting operating times for the sprinklers.
 - No part of the irrigation system is to protrude above the adjoining surface level creating a tripping hazard, except when operating, or where the irrigation system forms part of a developed area not accessible to pedestrians.
 - The operation, maintenance, or repair of damage caused to the installation is to be the resident's responsibility. No liability will be accepted by Council.
 - Council reserves the right to alter the system (at Council cost) should any road widening, drainage, or paving work etc. be required.
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VIBRANT VERGES

Solid Construction

No structure is to be placed within the verge area that may be unsafe or inconvenient to the passage of pedestrians, or affect sight distances.

This includes such structures as retaining walls, brick letterboxes, large rocks, or driveways with a different level to the footpath. Boulders and rockeries may be authorised in some circumstances, including in steeper terrain where pedestrian movement is unlikely.

Resident Responsibility

Where the verge area has been developed with Council authorisation the resident must:

- Fully maintain the development ensuring that plantings are kept in reasonable health and plants that die or are stolen are replaced.
 - Ensure the area is not overgrown with weeds and mulch replaced when necessary.
 - If the area becomes untidy and an eyesore, comply with a Council request that maintenance is improved failing which, Council will remove the development.
 - Notify Council immediately if the condition of the verge is altered in any other way than the authorised development.
- The resident is responsible for the planting of all verge plants (except street trees which are Council's responsibility) and their ongoing maintenance. The verge will need to be fully maintained by you and should be kept in reasonable health, not overgrown with weeds and re-mulched when necessary.
 - Any sketch or proposed design completed on the application form is subject to review and discussion with the appropriate Council Officer directly before works are to be undertaken. If your preference is to change your design or if your design does not meet Council's parameters and alterations are needed, it will be discussed with you shortly before works are to be undertaken.

Verge Development Examples

Mulch beds and native plants where a footpath already exists.



Trafficable path, 1.5m wide, mulch beds and native plants.



Paved footpath, 1.5m wide, garden beds with drought tolerant plants.



No footpath, 1.5m trafficable area, garden beds and space for bin placement.



For additional planting information and potential garden designs visit:
<https://cdn.environment.sa.gov.au/greenadelaide/images/adelaide-gardens-planting-guide-2021.pdf>

