

# CHAPTER 7

# LANDSCAPING



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**CHAPTER 7**

**LANDSCAPING**

**PART 1 MEANS OF COMPLIANCE**

**7.1.1 INTRODUCTION**

This part applies to the provision of street landscaping to enhance the environment in any part of a subdivision or where required as a condition of subdivision consent.

**7.1.2 REQUIREMENTS**

Street landscaping is to enhance and strengthen the existing character and intended future character of neighbourhood areas and unify those areas into an integrated town.

The planting shall provide maximum long term benefit to the public with minimum ongoing maintenance. It must not compromise the safe use of the legal road reserve or affect its structural integrity.

Opportunities for street landscaping are diverse, ranging from specimen tree planting within the standard road berm (Standard Drawing R 02), to planting associated with traffic calming devices (Standard Drawings R 19-R 22) and specific landscape features within the subdivision.

Detailed prescription of requirements is not considered appropriate, but provision of landscape elements within the street should be included at the design stage and submitted for approval with the engineering plans.

**7.1.3 LOCATION**

**7.1.3.1 Trees**

Trees are generally to be planted in the front berm area between the kerb and footpath and not within the rear (services) berm or in road verges less than 1 metre in width. Tree density shall be equivalent to a minimum of one tree for every 15 lineal metres of roadway.

The minimum separation distances shown on Standard Drawings R 05 and LS 02 should be observed for tree planting. These separation distances are guidelines and may have to be increased depending on the road geometry.

**7.1.3.2 Gardens**

Gardens shall be designed to keep maintenance to a minimum. Gardens must be located within street medians. The finished level of the soil is to be slightly raised to the centre rather than flat or sunken. The Council wishes to limit garden areas to keep maintenance costs within reasonable limits.

**7.1.4 SIZE**

The mature size of any tree or garden planting is to be assessed for each planting location and is to be in scale with the surrounding street environment and the space available.

Garden planting should not exceed 600mm in height above the roadway when planted in the sight triangle at intersections, or other traffic or pedestrian conflict areas.

### **7.1.5 SPECIES SELECTION**

Species are to be selected with regard to overall composition, low maintenance, longevity and must comply with Council's Tree Planting Policy. A copy of the Policy is available for viewing at the Council offices.

The number of species used is to be limited to ensure a unified results and species choice in street gardens is to complement the street tree planting.

The following matters are to be considered for correct species selection:

- Tolerance to pollution, drought, wind damage, pruning and vandalism
- Pest and disease resistance
- Invasive potential through suckering or seeding
- Root habits
- Shading characteristics
- Maintenance requirements
- Growth rate and mature size

### **7.1.6 QUALITY CONTROL**

All plant material shall be sound, health, vigorous and free of any defects which may be detrimental to plant growth and development.

### **7.1.7 LANDSCAPING STRUCTURES**

Landscaping structures may include sculptures, walls, fences, screens, bollards, entranceways, posts and the like, and could be made from materials such as concrete, brick, stone, rock and timber. The design of the landscape shall be considered as an integral part of the development and surroundings to fulfil both functional and aesthetic requirements. Durability and maintenance requirements shall be considered.

The structures shall be located so that they do not obstruct the sight lines for intersections, pedestrian crossings and signs. The separation distances shall be considered together with trees and other landscaping features.

Structures shall be designed to safely withstand appropriate loadings and shall not be a hazard to traffic.

Entranceway structures shall be located fully on private land. This policy applies mainly to arterial routes and on minor roads. Council may allow structures in the road reserve on a specific approval basis.

## **7.1.8 STREET TREES AND GARDENS**

### **7.1.8.1 Plan Approval**

Plans are to be submitted by the subdivider's representative at an appropriate scale (generally not less than 1:500 for tree planting and not greater than 1:100 for gardens) which detail both the botanical and common names, number proposed, size at planting, staking or other planting requirements and planting date (season). The location of services and street furniture is also to be provided. Plan approval, pre-construction, etc, are to follow the standard engineering requirements as set out in Chapter 1 of this Manual.

### **7.1.8.2 Irrigation**

Council approval is required prior to the installation of any permanent or semi-permanent irrigation system. If an irrigation system is to be installed, island gardens shall be provided with a duct for a water connection. Developers shall apply and pay for a metered water connection for irrigation purposes, and shall be responsible for all water usage costs.

### **7.1.8.3 Gardens**

All garden areas are to have a minimum of 400mm depth of organic topsoil free of all perennial weeds and stones greater in any dimension than 25mm.

The subgrade below the topsoil is to be free draining and shall not contain any rock or concrete material and shall be loosened to a depth of 600mm to provide free drainage prior to placing the topsoil.

### **7.1.8.4 Tree Pits**

Tree pits should be 1½ times the diameter of the root ball and exceed its depth by a minimum of 200mm.

The subgrade below the tree pit is to be free draining and shall not contain any rock or concrete materials.

The subgrade shall be loosened to a depth of 600mm below the base of the pit to provide free drainage.

### **7.1.8.5 Root Control Barrier Planter**

All specimen trees in islands in front berms of streets shall be planted in conjunction with an approved root control barrier planter.

Root control planters shall be of a proprietary structural polyethylene material or as approved by the Engineer and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and Standard Drawing LS 01.

A 100mm wide drainage metal layer shall be placed between the root control planter and any kerb, footpath, pipework or other fixed structure as shown on Standard Drawing LS01.

**7.1.8.6 Maintenance Period**

The developer is responsible for the routine maintenance and replacement of the planting including dead wooding, weed control, mulching, replacing dead trees and watering for the period up until the issue of the Section 224C certificate or such other period as stated in the Resource Consent.

**7.1.8.7 Completion**

The Council does not require "As Built" of the street landscaping. The Developer's Representative must be satisfied that the street landscaping is in accordance with the design and must include any specified landscaping in the Certificate of Completion.

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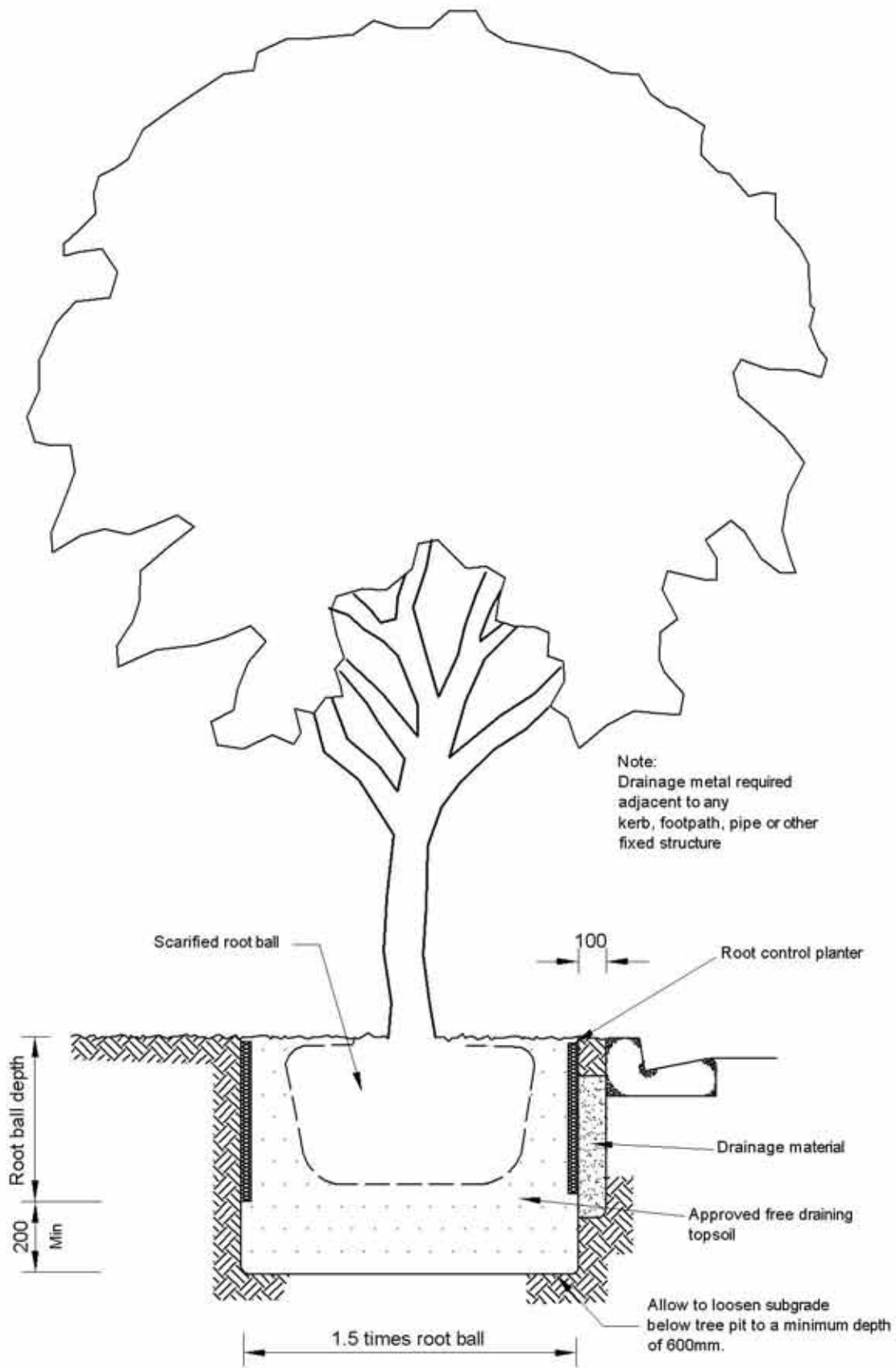
**LANDSCAPING**

**STANDARD DRAWINGS**

LS 01	.....	Root Control Planters for Trees
LS 02	.....	Street Tree Placement







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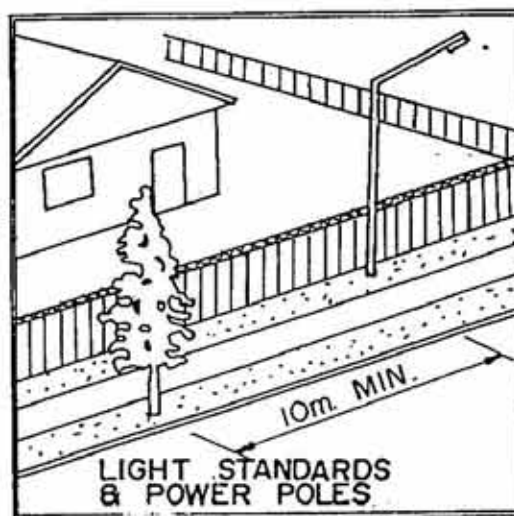
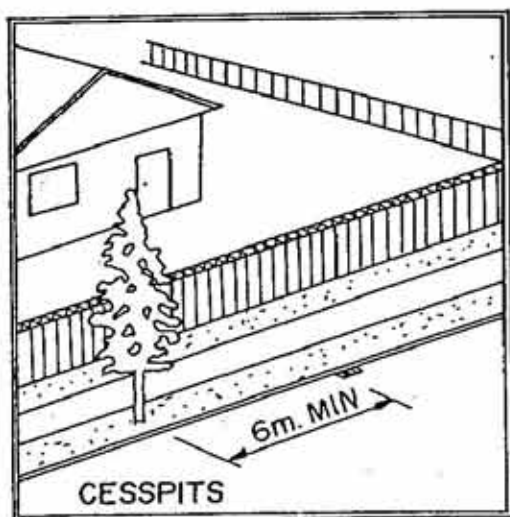
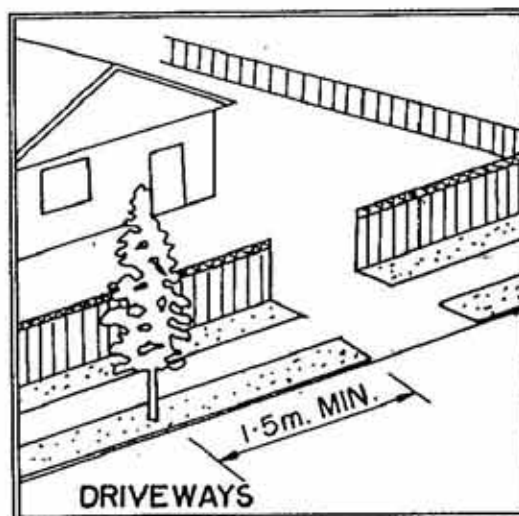
STANDARD DRAWING

NOT TO SCALE

ROOT CONTROL PLANTERS  
FOR TREES

LS 01

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**NOTE**

1. At Intersections trees shall be placed far enough back to maintain adequate sight distances. Refer to Drawing R 25 for sight distances.
2. The clearances shown in the diagram above may be varied with Council approval depending on the selected species.

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**STANDARD DRAWING**

NOT TO SCALE

**STREET TREE PLACEMENT**

**LS 02**

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