



NATIVE VERGE GARDEN FAQs

Does my verge garden comply with local permissions and regulations?

Yes. Our experienced team understands local council guidelines and designs each verge garden to comply. We use low-growing, non-invasive plants that maintain clear pedestrian access, protect sightlines for road users, and avoid obstructing public utilities such as water meters and electrical boxes. We'll even consider your postie. Verge gardens will be registered with council where required.

What about underground services and utilities?

We use a no-dig approach, with only shallow excavation required for planting. All sites are checked through Before You Dig prior to any work commencing and aim to ensure underground services are protected.

What about erosion and runoff management?

All products used are water-permeable, and gardens are designed to slow runoff and capture rainfall. Homeowners are asked to check the verge garden regularly and sweep any displaced mulch or soil back onto the garden bed as needed.

Who is responsible for ongoing maintenance?

After installation, the verge garden is maintained by the homeowner, similar to any other part of the property frontage. We will provide an aftercare guide to assist with tips on keeping maintenance simple and manageable. Once established, verge gardens typically require less work than lawn.

What ongoing care is required?

After planting, we provide an aftercare guide and watering schedule (weather dependent):

- First 2–4 weeks: Water 2–3 times per week
- 4–12 weeks: Water once or twice per week
- 3–6 months: Water every 10–14 days

After this establishment period, watering needs are minimal.

What if some plants don't survive?

Some plant losses can occur and should be expected during establishment, particularly in hot or dry conditions. We endeavour to select hardy, local species and can provide guidance on plant replacement, if necessary.

Will a verge garden affect footpaths, parking, or bins?

No. All designs maintain clear pedestrian access, safe sightlines, and space for bins, vehicles, and services. Verge gardens are designed around how streets are already used.

What if my neighbours don't like it?

Well-designed and well-maintained verge gardens are increasingly accepted and supported. Our gardens are intentionally neat, compliant, and clearly signed, which helps normalise verge gardens and often sparks positive conversations rather than complaints. We encourage homeowners to talk to their neighbours about their verge plans, and we will assist discussions by providing a letter that can be distributed to nearby neighbours.

Can I request a street tree?

Yes. The Groundswell Collective can help guide and support a street tree request with your local council and incorporate one into the verge garden design where appropriate.

I love my verge garden! How can I encourage my neighbours to follow suit?

A healthy, well-kept verge garden naturally sparks curiosity. We include a small sign linking to our website, and we encourage residents to share what they love about their verge with neighbours – personal stories are often what give others the confidence to get started.

