



# Council Policy Manual

## WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

<b>COUNCIL POLICY</b>	
<b>TREE PLANTATIONS ON UNUSED ROAD RESERVES POLICY</b>	Policy No:
	Adopted by Council: 20 Dec 2017
	Next review date:
Senior Manager:	Director Infrastructure, Development & Works
Responsible Officer:	Manager Planning & Environment
Functional Area:	Planning
Introduction & Background	West Wimmera Shire Council is committed to the environment and to supporting initiatives to rehabilitate unused road reserves.
Purpose & Objectives	<p>Guidelines to advise and assess applications from individuals, community groups, landholders or other entities, to establish tree plantations on unused road reserves.</p> <p>The related Council Procedure will provide further detail on the requirements for an application, including management of disputes.</p>
<b>Policy Details</b>	
1.	<p><b>Adjoining landowners and stakeholders</b></p> <p>Council will consider planting applications only if adjoining landowners have been consulted.</p> <p>The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) are to be notified of any plantings on road reserves.</p> <p>Except when landowner permission is provided in writing, trees are to be planted no closer than 2 metres from a landowner's fence, and no closer than 5 metres off gateways.</p> <p>A minimum width of seven (7) metres in the centre of the road should be clear of any planting to enable any future use of the road.</p>
2.	<p><b>Care and Maintenance</b></p> <p>West Wimmera Shire Council is not responsible for the care and maintenance of the tree plantations.</p> <p>Any group responsible for planting tree Plantations on unused road reserves is responsible for the management of weeds for a period of 10 years.</p> <p>Any tree guards used for seedling trees must be monitored on a regular basis. If any</p>



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	tree guards are dislodged/blown away they must be removed from the road reserve.
3.	<p>Unused road future use</p> <p>If there are future plans to reopen the road reserve for traffic, the planting must allow for a clear width for use by traffic.</p>
4.	<p>Plant species</p> <p>Preferred plantings are those that are suitable to the site location, native to Victoria and indigenous to the area.</p>
5.	<p>Application in writing</p> <p>Any individual, community member or group who is desirous of planting trees on unused road reserves must provide the Shire with a plan that identifies at a minimum, the location, the extent and estimated numbers of plants and the proposed species.</p> <p>It is recommended an establishment plan is included.</p>

<b>Policy Adopted:</b>	Ordinary Meeting 16/05/95	Minute Book Page 154	
<b>Policy Reviewed:</b>	Ordinary Meeting 26/09/02	Minute Book Page 10410	
	Ordinary Meeting 06/04/06	Minute Book Page 13682	
	Ordinary Meeting 11/03/10	Minute Book Page 17759	
	Ordinary Council 16/07/15	Minute Book Page 31431	RecFind 15/002910
	Ordinary Council 20/12/17	Minute Book Page 37387	RecFind 17/005253