



MOWING NATURE STRIPS

PURPOSE

Hunters Hill Council is committed to ensuring that the streetscapes are maintained in partnership with the residents of Hunters Hill. Council relies on the community spirit of its residents to help maintain the local amenity of their neighbourhoods by mowing the grassed nature strips adjoining their properties.

This policy is aimed at ensuring that Hunters Hill grassed nature strips are maintained and that those residents who because of health and financial reasons are unable to mow the nature strip adjoining their residence are provided with a mowing service to assist.

This document provides the criteria by which Council assesses the provision of this mowing service to those residents who are unable to carry out the work themselves.

SCOPE

The Objectives of the policy are:

- To confirm and recognise the community's role in maintaining grassed nature strips.
- To define appropriate criteria to be used in assessing requests by residents for Council assistance in mowing grassed nature strips.

This Policy does not extend to the maintenance of internal lawns on private property. This obligation remains the responsibility of the owner or occupier of the property.

Council generally will not consider mowing a residential nature strip if lawns within the adjacent private property are currently being maintained.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all Council owned and/or controlled nature strips within the Hunters Hill Municipality.

The policy does not extend to the mowing of grass on private property; this is the responsibility of the owner or occupier of the property.

POLICY STATEMENT

BACKGROUND

Council has had a long-standing practice of relying on residents and businesses to maintain those grassed nature strips adjoining their property. This policy restates this practice identifying the importance of community involvement and cooperation.

It is recognised that not all residents are able to carry out this work and so Council provides a Nature Strip Mowing Service for these residents meeting certain criteria who are unable to maintain the grassed nature strips adjoining their property.

POLICY GUIDELINES

1. RESPONSIBILITY

Grassed nature strips are expected to be mowed regularly by residents or property owners and kept neat and tidy such that they provide a safe environment and contribute to the general appearance of the streetscape.



2. AREAS THAT COUNCIL WILL MAINTAIN

Council undertakes to maintain the nature strips that meet any or all of the following general criteria:-

- Adjacent to Council community facilities.
- Adjacent to parks and reserves.
- Nature strips on State Roads where the adjoining properties are oriented so that the front of the property faces the rear boundary.
- Nature strips where the resident or owner of the property is unable physically and financially to undertake the work themselves and has made application to Council and had it approved for Council to maintain the area.

3. AREAS EXPECTED TO BE MAINTAINED BY OWNERS / RESIDENTS

All areas not maintained by Council are expected to be maintained by the owners and/or residents of the adjoining private property. It is recognised that some residents may appoint a contractor to undertake this work for them. It is considered reasonable that the nature strip mowing would be carried out in conjunction with the mowing within the private property. Nature strips will generally not be mowed by Council if other lawns within the private property are being maintained by the resident or a contractor on behalf of the resident.

4. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NATURE STRIP MOWING SERVICE ADJACENT TO PRIVATE PROPERTY

The following criteria will be considered in assessing a person's eligibility for inclusion on the Nature Strip Mowing Service List. Council reserves the right to take special conditions into consideration, other than those listed.

The criteria are:

- The applicant MUST be a permanent resident of Hunters Hill Council and own/occupy a single (1) property which is the subject of the Exceptional Circumstance Assistance – Vegetated Road Verge and Nature Strip Maintenance Application.
- The applicant MUST be receiving or assessed as eligible to receive Home and Community Care (HACC) Services such as home care or mowing assistance; and/or
- Have a disability or medical condition making it impractical for that person to maintain their nature strip area; and/or
- Have no other member of the household, friends or relatives able to maintain the nature strip area on behalf of the applicant; and/or
- Have a private residential property consisting of no lawn area which adjoins the grass nature strip area; and/or
- Have a private residential property with an excessively large grassed nature strip area requiring maintenance, e.g. front, back and side nature strip areas; and/or
- Have a private residential property where the nature strip area is not accessible from the property.

5. MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

The Nature Strip Mowing Service does not provide a guaranteed mowing frequency and site visits under this policy will generally be no more than 12 times a year, or at Council's discretion.

Council will clean grass clippings from the footpath, driveway and gutter that results from works carried out in the maintenance of the nature strips. No other rubbish, debris or green waste will be cleaned up and/or removed from the nature strip or private property at the time of mowing.



6. APPROVAL PROCESS

Applicants requesting this Nature Strip Mowing Service must fill in the relevant application form.

Once the application has been assessed, residents who meet the eligibility criteria set out in this policy will be entered on Council's Nature Strip Mowing List.

All recipients of the service are required to reapply annually to confirm eligibility. Applications forms will be sent out by Council and the service will be suspended if appropriate confirmation is not received.

The Nature Strip Mowing Service is not an entitlement program. At all times the mowing service will only be provided subject to availability of funding.

7. SUSPENSION OF SERVICE

The Council reserves the right to remove any person from the Nature Strip Mowing List at any time with two weeks written notice, if any of the following occur:

- The person sells or otherwise transfers their interest in the property, and/or ceases to occupy the property.
- The circumstances of the owner / occupier of the property change dramatically, such that the person no longer meets the eligibility criteria stated in this policy.
- The person fails to report any changes in their circumstances, which could make them ineligible for inclusion on the Nature Strip Mowing List.
- Council deems that the person no longer meets the eligibility criteria stated in this policy

POLICY OWNER

The policy authority is the General Manager.

AUTHORISATION AND REVIEW

This policy is to be reviewed in 2019 or with any changes to relevant legislation or Council policy.

Version Control Table

Date	Version	Res. No.	Key Changes	Author
12.12.16	1.0	404/16	Adoption of Policy	General Manager



Nature Strip Mowing Service Application

Address: 22 Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill

Post: PO Box 21 Hunters Hill NSW 2110

Tel: (02) 9879 9400

Web: huntershill.nsw.gov.au

Email: council@huntershillnsw.gov.au

Important Information	Hunters Hill Council relies on residents and businesses to maintain the grassed nature strips adjoining their property. Council provides a Nature Strip Mowing Service for these residents who are unable to maintain the nature strip and meet eligibility requirements. Please complete this form to enable Council to determine your eligibility for placement on the Nature Strip Mowing List.
Privacy	<i>Under the Privacy or Personal Information Protection Act (PPIPA), Council is required to advise you that personal information being collected from you in relation to this matter will only be used for the lawful and proper functions of Council. Any such use will be in accordance with this Act and its associated Management Plan and Codes.</i>
Person requiring the Nature Strip Mowing Service	Name: Address: Telephone: (H) (W) (Mob).....
Resident Status	1. Do you live at this address permanently? Yes No
Income Status	2. Date of Birth: 3. Marital Status: Single Married Widowed 4. Are you the holder of a current Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) or War Service pension issued by the Commonwealth Government, or some other type of income substitution resulting from a disability e.g. workers compensation or income protection benefit? Yes No Pension Card No: Date of Grant: Description of other income substitution:

HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL POLICY REGISTER



<p>Home care eligibly or disability / mobility / health status</p>	<p>5a. Do you live alone, or live with someone? Alone Not Alone</p> <p>5b. If not alone, does the other person/s have a medical condition? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, what type:</p> <p>6a. Do you currently receive any home care services, for example, Meals on Wheels, Linen Service, Easy Care Gardening Service? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, provide further information:</p> <p>6b. If no, Do you have a physical disability or mobility problem? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, what type:</p> <p>6c. Does your health prohibit you from mowing the nature strip? Yes No</p> <p>If yes, please attach medical certificate.</p>
<p>No mowing by others</p>	<p>7. Do you have family who can assist you with mowing? Yes No</p> <p>8. Do you have a lawn within your property? Yes No</p> <p>9. Who currently mows the lawn within your property? </p> <p>10. Who has been mowing your nature strip up until now? </p>
<p>Area requested to be mown</p>	<p>11. How large is the area of nature strip that requires mowing? (approximate dimensions in metres)</p> <p>Front Nature Strip Side Nature Strip (if corner block) Rear Lane (if applicable)</p>
<p>Person making the Application (if different to the person requiring the service)</p>	<p>Name:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>Telephone: (H)(W)</p> <p>...(Mob).....</p>

HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL POLICY REGISTER



Applicant's Declaration	<p><u>Declaration:</u></p> <p>I declare that the above information is true:</p> <p>Signed:</p> <p>Date:</p> <p>I have attached copies of relevant documents to support this application</p>															
For office use only	<p>Eligibility Criteria</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Resident Status</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Satisfied</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Not Satisfied</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2a. Home Care Eligibility</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Satisfied</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Not Satisfied</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2b. Disability/Mobility/Health Status</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Satisfied</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Not Satisfied</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Income Status</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Satisfied</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Not Satisfied</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. No mowing by others</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Satisfied</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Not Satisfied</td> </tr> </table> <p>Approved applicant must satisfy all eligibility criteria 1-4.</p> <p>Approved: Not Approved</p> <p>Comments:.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>	1. Resident Status	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	2a. Home Care Eligibility	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	2b. Disability/Mobility/Health Status	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	3. Income Status	Satisfied	Not Satisfied	4. No mowing by others	Satisfied	Not Satisfied
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Extract from Nature Strip Mowing Policy

The following criteria will be considered in assessing a person's eligibility for inclusion on the Nature Strip Mowing List. Council reserves the right to take special conditions into consideration, other than those listed.

The criteria are:

1. Be a permanent resident of Hunters Hill, and occupy the property which is the subject of the Nature Strip Mowing Service application; and
2. Be receiving or be assessed as eligible to receive home care services such as Meals on Wheels, Linen Service or Easy Care Gardening Service, or have a disability or other medical condition which makes it impossible for that person to mow their nature strip; and
3. Be the holder of a current Pensioner Concession Card (PCC) or War Service Pension issued by the Commonwealth Government; or some other type of income substitution resulting from a physical disability e.g. workers compensation or income protection benefit; and
4. Have no other members of the household or relatives who are able to mow the nature strip.

For additional information, telephone Councils Customer Service Centre on **9879 9400**.

General Manager

Hunters Hill Council