

Popular garden designs for Perth and the South West



As our state experiences the effects of climate change, more Western Australians are embracing **fresh water thinking** and switching to **waterwise plants** and gardening practices.

If you live in the Perth metropolitan, Peel and South West regions, and in towns along the coast from Perth to Albany to Esperance, then this guide is for you. Take a fresh look at your garden to make it more waterwise and lower maintenance, while making it more beautiful. There are some key areas you can focus on to give your garden a good head start.



Improving your soil

The first and most important step to achieving a waterwise garden is to create healthy soil by adding compost, soil improver and soil wetting agents as you plant and maintain your garden.

Hydrozoning

Hydrozoning is grouping plants with similar watering needs. It's a good way to save water in the garden, and should be considered when adding new plants.

Irrigation

Irrigation is a key consideration because on average the garden uses more than 40 per cent of all water used by households. Waterwise gardeners reduce watering times in spring and autumn (and switch irrigation systems off in winter/wet season) and select sprinklers and drippers that deliver water to the plant roots and not across paths.

Mulching

Applying chunky coarse mulch to your garden can reduce evaporation, improve the soil, lower plant stress and weed growth, as well as enhance the appearance of your garden.

Look for the Waterwise symbol

When creating your new garden look for the Waterwise symbol when choosing gardening products such as mulch, plants, greywater systems and sprinklers. For professional help with saving water in and around your home and garden, contact a Waterwise Garden Centre, Garden Designer, Garden Irrigator, Irrigation Design Shop, Landscaper, Plumber or Water Auditor.



Combine these principles with our waterwise designs and plants and you will be on your way to creating a functional, attractive garden that will thrive in our climatic conditions.

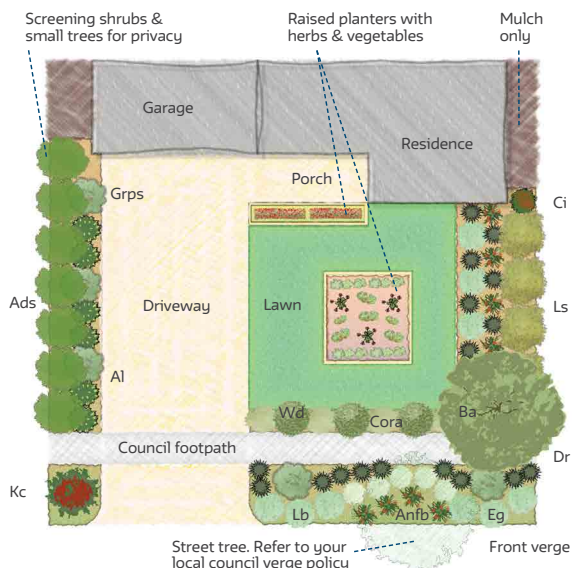
Please refer to [Your guide to a waterwise garden brochure](#) for more detail.

Coastal garden

Often rugged and relaxed, a coastal garden is full of hardy plants that can withstand strong winds.

Legend

- Hydrozone 1
- Hydrozone 3 (including vegetables, herbs & fruit trees)
- Hydrozone 2
- Lawn



Plant types

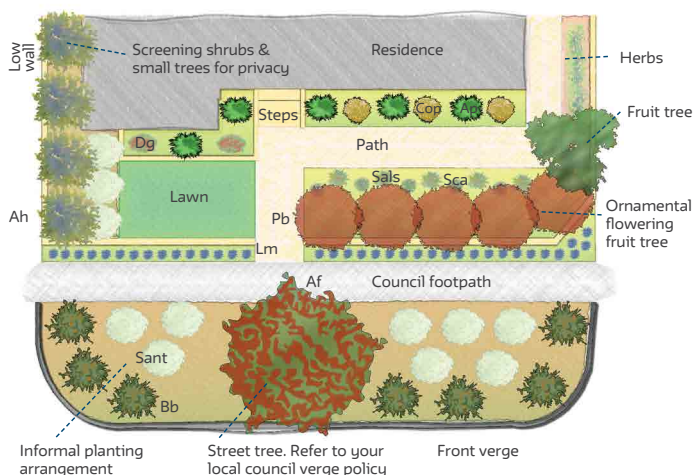
Abrv	Common name	Botanical name
Groundcovers		
Eg	Emu Bush	<i>Eremophila glabra</i> *
Grps	Grevillea 'Seaspray'	<i>Grevillea preissii</i> *
Kc	Kennedia 'Coastal Carpet'	<i>Kennedia coccinea</i> *
Shrubs		
Ads	Adenanthos 'Pencil Perfect'	<i>Adenanthos sericeus</i> *
Cora	Coastal Correa	<i>Correa alba</i> *
Ls	Coastal Tea Tree	<i>Leptospermum sericum</i> *
Lb	Cushion Bush	<i>Leucophyta brownii</i> *
Wd	Native Rosemary	<i>Westringia dampieri</i> *
Al	Acacia lasiocarpa	<i>Acacia lasiocarpa</i> *
Ci	Holly Flame Pea	<i>Chorizema ilicifolium</i> *
Grasses/strappy leaf plants		
Anfb	Kangaroo Paw (Dwarf) Bush Gem Series	<i>Anigozanthos flavidus</i> *
Dr	Dianella 'Little Rev'	<i>Dianella revoluta</i> *
Trees		
Ba	Ashby's Banksia	<i>Banksia ashbyi</i> *
MI	Rottnest Tea Tree	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i> * ^Δ

Cottage garden

Informal in layout, a cottage garden usually contains a combination of annuals, perennials, brightly flowering shrubs and herbaceous plants. English in origin (yet waterwise through modern plant choices) cottage gardens burst with colour and fragrance.

Legend

- Hydrozone 1
- Hydrozone 3 (including vegetables, herbs & fruit trees)
- Hydrozone 2
- Lawn



Plant types

Abrv	Common name	Botanical name
Groundcovers		
Bb	Southern Blechnum Banksia	<i>Banksia blechnifolia</i> *
Dg	Darwinia (Prostrate Form)	<i>Darwinia grandiflora</i> *
Sca	Purple Fanfare	<i>Scaevola aemula</i> *
Shrubs		
Ah	Blue Hibiscus	<i>Alyogyne huegelii</i> *
Cop	Diosma	<i>Coleonema pulchellum</i>
Crow	Crowea	<i>Crowea exalata</i> ^Δ
Sant	Cotton Lavender	<i>Santolina chamaecyparissus</i>
Sals	Salvia 'Electric Blue'	<i>Salvia sinoensis</i>
Grasses/strappy leaf plants		
Ap	Dwarf Agapantha	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i>
Arc	NZ Rock Lily	<i>Arthropodium cirratum</i>
Lm	Lilyturf	<i>Liriope muscari</i>
Trees		
Af	Jervis Bay Afterdark	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> *
L	Bay Tree	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> ^Δ
Pb	Ornamental Plum	<i>Prunus blireiana</i>

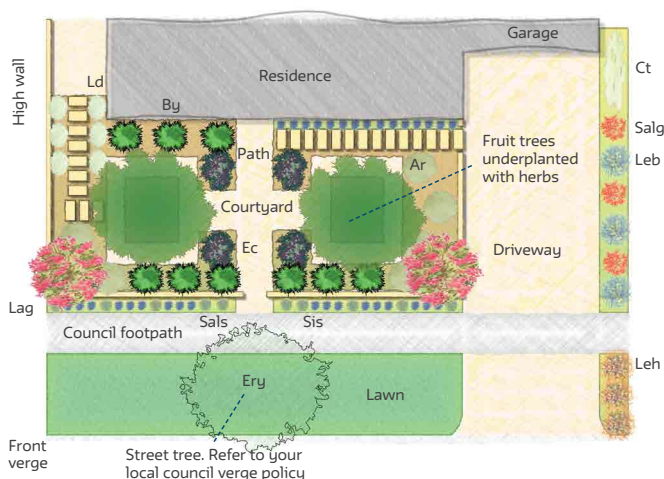
* These species are endemic to WA ^ΔOptional species (not included in illustration)

Mediterranean garden

Creating pleasures for all the senses, a Mediterranean garden has a combination of colours, flowering plants, interesting foliage and plants that produce fruit, vegetables and herbs. Complete this look by including design elements such as paths and rustic benches.

Legend

- Hydrozone 1
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- Hydrozone 2
- Lawn



Plant types

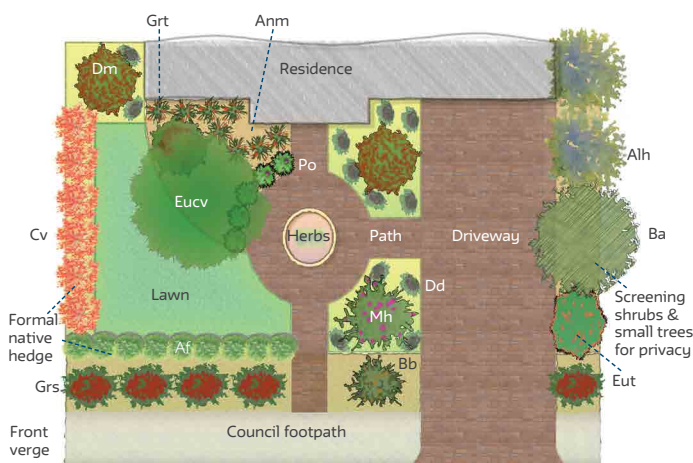
Abrv	Common name	Botanical name
Groundcovers		
Ct	Snow in Summer	<i>Cerastium tomentosum</i>
Leh	Red Lechenaultia	<i>Lechenaultia hirsuta</i> *
Leb	Blue Lechenaultia	<i>Lechenaultia biloba</i> *
Shrubs		
Coc	Blue Smoke Bush (prostate form)	<i>Conospermum caeruleum</i> *
Ar	Wormwood	<i>Artemisia absinthium</i>
Ec	Pride of Madeira	<i>Echium candicans</i>
Ld	Upside-down Bush	<i>Leptosema davesioides</i>
Salg	Salvia 'Crimson and Black'	<i>Salvia greggi</i>
Sals	Salvia 'Electric Blue'	<i>Salvia sinaloensis</i>
Grasses/strappy leaf plants		
By	Mexican Lily	<i>Beschorneria yuccoides</i>
Sis	Devon Skies	<i>Sisyrinchium 'Devon Skies'</i> *
Trees		
Ery	Coral Tree	<i>Erythrina indica</i>
Lag	Crepe Myrtle	<i>Lagerstromia indica</i>

Native garden

The ideal garden for our Western Australian climate, a native garden will look attractive, provide year round flowering and attract birds and wildlife.

Legend

- Hydrozone 1
- Hydrozone 3 (including vegetables, herbs & fruit trees)
- Hydrozone 2
- Lawn



Plant types

Abrv	Common name	Botanical name
Groundcovers		
Bb	Southern Blechnum Banksia	<i>Banksia blechnifolia</i> *
Dd	Dampiera	<i>Dampiera diversifolia</i> *
Dm	Mondorup Bell	<i>Darwinia macrostegia</i> *
Grs	Grevillea 'Star Burst'	<i>Grevillea saccata</i> *
Grt	Grevillea tenuiloba	<i>Grevillea tenuiloba</i> *
Shrubs		
Af	Dwarf Agonis	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> * ^Δ
Alh	Native Hibiscus	<i>Alyogyne hakeifolia</i> *
Cv	Bottlebrush 'Little John'	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>
Eut	Egg and Bacon Plant	<i>Eutaxia myrtifolia</i> *
Mh	Chenille Honey Myrtle	<i>Melaleuca huegelii</i> *
Grasses/strappy leaf plants		
Anm	Kangaroo Paw	<i>Anigozanthos manglesii</i>
Po	Native Iris or Purple Flag	<i>Pattersonia occidentalis</i>
Trees		
Ba	Ashby's Banksia	<i>Banksia ashbyi</i> *
Eucv	Eucalyptus 'Snow Queen'	<i>Eucalyptus victrix</i> *

* These species are endemic to WA ^ΔOptional species (not included in illustration)

Verge garden

By transforming your verge into a waterwise garden you will create an attractive hassle-free garden that requires less maintenance.

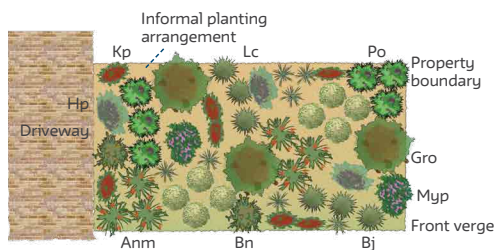
Before planning your verge, check with your local council for any guidelines or restrictions in place.

To transform your lawned verge, first apply a herbicide with glyphosate as the active ingredient. After a few months, the lawn will breakdown and act as a source of nutrients for new plants.

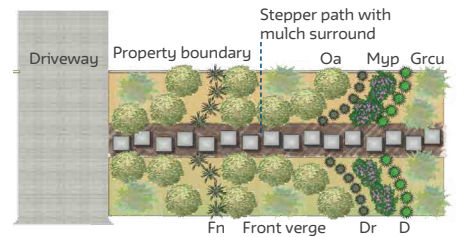
You don't need to remove the lawn, just plot out the design and dig holes for the new plants and watch your new waterwise verge come to life.

For more details on verge gardens, please refer to the [How to create a waterwise verge](#) brochure.

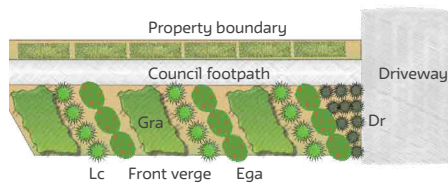
Informal



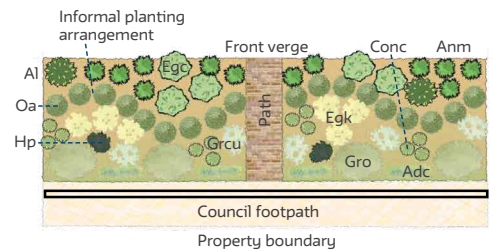
Contemporary-modern



Formal



Coastal



Plant types for your verge garden

Abrv	Common name	Botanical name
Low shrubs		
Bn	Honeypot Dryandra	<i>Banksia nivea</i>
Al	Acacia lasiocarpa	<i>Acacia lasiocarpa</i>
Oa	Olearia 'Little Smokie'	<i>Olearia axillaris</i>
Wd	Westringia 'Jervis Gem'	<i>Westringia dampieri</i>
Groundcovers		
Hp	Snake Bush	<i>Hemiantra pungens</i>
Gro	Grevillea 'Gin Gin Gem'	<i>Grevillea obtusifolia</i>
Grcu	Grevillea 'Flat Jack'	<i>Grevillea curviloba</i>
Adc	Adenanthos 'Coral Carpet'	<i>Adenanthos cuneatus</i>
Egc	Eremophila 'Compactum'	<i>Eremphila glabra</i>
Kp	Running Postman	<i>Kennedia prostrata</i>
Myop	Creeping Boobialla	<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>
Ega	Eremophila 'Amber Carpet'	<i>Eremophila glabra</i>
Grasses/strappy leaf plants		
Conc	Grey Cottonheads	<i>Conostylis candidans</i>
Myop	Creeping Boobialla	<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>
Anm	Kangaroo Paw	<i>Angiozanthus manglesii</i>
Po	Native Iris or Purple Flag	<i>Pattersonia occidentalis</i>
D	Dianella 'Silver Streak'	<i>Dianella</i>
Dr	Dianella 'Little Rev'	<i>Dianella revoluta</i>
Fn	Knotted Club Rush	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>
Lc	Little Con	<i>Lomandra confertifolia</i>
Bj	Bare Twig-rush	<i>Baumea juncea</i>



Vegetable garden

Having your own vegetable garden is a great way to enjoy fresh and healthy produce. It is possible regardless of how small or big your garden is, and you can use waterwise gardening techniques to minimise water use.

Location

The location of your vegetable garden is important. Vegetables need a good source of sunlight – somewhere not too sunny in summer and with enough sunlight in winter is ideal. A spot protected from wind by a building or hedge will keep your vegetables happy.

Space

When choosing where to start your garden and if space is limited, a raised container is ideal as it keeps the garden contained and can be moved to suit the weather conditions. If you have plenty of space a garden bed can be established in the ground, as it involves less set up but can't be moved.

What to plant

When deciding what to grow, think about planting seasonal vegetables to get the best results and minimise water use. By planting from seeds you can stagger when the vegetables are ready, while planting from seedlings will see them mature at once. Whichever you choose, make sure you plant vegetables that will be eaten and put to good use.

Watering

Hand watering twice a week or installing sub-irrigation or drippers will help deliver the best results in your garden.

For more details on waterwise gardening techniques for your vegetable garden please refer to the **Your guide to a waterwise garden** brochure.

Watering your garden

A typical suburban block, with the waterwise designs in this leaflet, will thrive on irrigation on two watering days per week in summer (half that in spring and autumn).

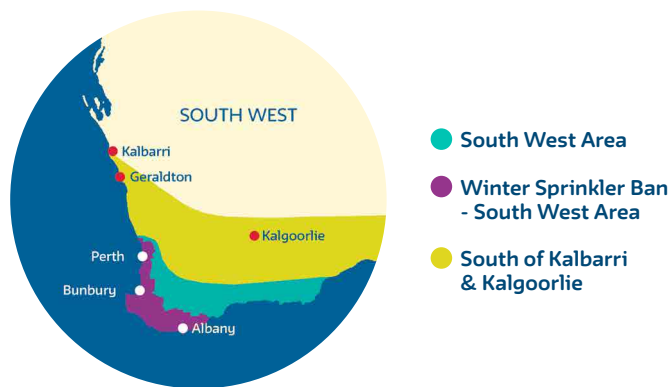
If planting a new garden, you can ensure it gets the best start by applying for a watering exemption. Visit watercorporation.com.au/exemption or contact the Waterwise Helpline on 13 10 39 to apply.

Once your garden is established you will need to abide by the state-wide watering rosters and daytime sprinkler ban between 9am and 6pm.

- Scheme water users in Perth, Mandurah and towns south of (and including) Kalbarri and Kalgoorlie can use sprinklers two days a week based on their street number and lot number.
- Garden bore users in Perth and Mandurah can use sprinklers three days a week, Bore users in the rest of the state can use their bore when required.

A permanent winter sprinkler ban also applies to scheme and bore water users in Perth, Mandurah and some parts of the South West and Great Southern between 1 June and 31 August each year.

You can find your watering days on our website at watercorporation.com.au/wateringdays



For more information on creating a waterwise garden visit watercorporation.com.au/gardendesign

13 13 85 Account Enquiries (8am - 5pm weekdays)
13 36 77 National Relay Service

This information is available in alternative formats on request.
watercorporation.com.au/contact

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