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ALICE SPRINGS TOWN COUNCIL (ASTC)

1. RURAL ROAD RESERVE MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

Aim:
To provide and maintain safe, environmentally responsible and visually attractive rural roadside verges for the Alice Springs community

Policy Objectives:
To ensure that road verges are maintained according to the Council’s statutory functions and duty of care to road users, allowing vegetation development subject to a Verge Development Permit of reserves/verges where it does not conflict with access, fire breaks, drainage or maintenance requirements.

Other polices objectives include:
1. To develop the road corridors and verges in a responsible manner which demonstrates Community and ASTC pride in the town and confidence in a regional identity.
2. To enhance the unique elements of Alice Springs natural, cultural and townscape elements.
3. To establish standards in planning, design, implementation and maintenance that adopts best practice and the principals of environmental responsibility.
4. To establish and maintain a high level of community involvement in the development and maintenance of rural road verges.
5. To establish and maintain quality and timely maintenance of all rural road verges and roadsides within the municipality.
6. To provide a safe environment for cyclists, pedestrians and other non-vehicular users.
7. To establish safe access and egress from properties.
8. To minimise negative impact on the environment by best work practices

Policy Statement:
The Council recognises that roads are an important transportation medium and must be developed and maintained according to its statutory functions and duty of care for road users. Vegetation development as per “Verge Development Permit Guidelines” may be permitted by landholders where the resulting effects from that vegetation will not conflict with Council’s obligations as a road authority, or interfere with other services or access required within the road reserve.

Alice Springs Town Council recognises that the landscape character of any region is a combination of aesthetic, physical, cultural and social qualities that create a distinctive and identifiable “Sense of Pride”. Recognition and retention of the cultural and natural values of a place is important to preserve local identity within the wider national context and to demonstrate community and local government pride in the town.

To ensure that future streetscape projects retain this identity and to enhance the townscape of Alice Springs, it is necessary to establish strategic principals to provide a framework for future design and implementation.
2. **Introduction:**

The purpose of this policy is to guide maintenance activities for rural road reserves and provide a framework for approval of verge development permits to landholders. Council, as a road authority has responsibility for road maintenance and to ensure safe access. Maintenance practices must minimise the potential for erosion, dust and be sustainable within the natural environment.

Road verges perform a number of important functions. These include pedestrian access, location of services such as electricity, sewerage, gas, water, telephone, communications and other services. They can also act as habitat corridors and refuges, and provide opportunities for re-vegetation and enhancement of the natural environment.

Council responsibilities in road reserves include:
- ensuring they do not constitute a fire hazard
- the control of weeds
- management of storm water drainage
- Management of accident prone situations
- Adhere to all relevant NT Government Legislation

Road Reserves remain the property and the responsibility of the Alice Springs Town Council and ASTC reserves the right to conduct work on road reserves. A Permit to work within the Alice Springs Town Council Road Reserve must be obtained prior to any works being commenced on any verge.

For all “landscaping” on verges within Alice Springs, A Permit to work within the Alice Springs Town Council Road Reserve plus Rural Road Reserve Management Requirements Guidelines must be obtained.

For other works on road reserves including vehicle access (driveways / crossovers), stormwater discharge, kerb works and other minor construction works, A Permit to work within the Alice Springs Town Council Road Reserve plus the appropriate guidelines will be required and available from the front counter at the Civic Centre in Todd Street or via the ASTC website. All relevant Dial Before You Dig information (Power, Water, Sewerage, Telstra, Gas, Cable Television and other services) must be attached to the application form.

**Drawing 1:**

[Drawing of Road Formation]
3. Definitions:

“Act” means the Local Government Act

“Road Formation” means width of the road including carriageway, shoulders, and table drain (refer to drawing 1)

“Road Reserve” means width of road reserve as shown on Cadastre surveys (refer to drawing 1), and which immediately abuts the adjoining property title.

“Landscaping” means the natural growth of vegetation within the verge or the development of garden/vegetation

“Verge” means from Cadastre boundary to the top of drain (refer to drawing 1)

“Bare Earth” refers to the management practice of controlled slashing/mowing and selected spraying of existing vegetation including natural grasses.

4. Background:

4.1 Control of Roads

For all roads under the care and control of the ASTC, refer to “The Local Government Act”.

4.2 Ownership of Roads within Alice Springs:

ASTC controls all roads within the municipality except those listed below. The following roads in Alice Springs are controlled by the Northern Territory Government:

- North Stuart Highway
- Telegraph Terrace
- South Stuart Highway
- Larapinta Drive
- Stott Terrace
- Sadadeen Road
- Undoolya Road (Grevillea Roundabout to Undoolya Boundary)
- South Terrace (Stephens Roads Causeway to South Stuart Highway)
- Ross Highway
- Stephens Road
- Roger Vale Road
- Santa Teresa Road

4.3 Councils Maintenance Responsibilities

The road formation which contains the critical elements of the road may occupy a significant part of the road reserve:

- Road carriageway whether sealed on unsealed
- Shoulders to provide stability to the road pavement and storm water drainage from the road surface
- Table drain for collection of surface run-off from road carriageway and shoulders.
- Road side furniture including guide posts, signage, etc
- Sight distance restrictions at intersections, where signs such as a “Give Way” have a minimum sight distance along the intersection
- Fire Breaks
- Vegetation control
- Soil erosion
- Other work as deemed necessary by ASTC
The Council is charged with powers under the Act to provide and maintain roads, which include all components of the road as defined above. The Council also has a duty of care to road users to ensure roads are safe for their intended purposes. This means that Council must use effective maintenance practices and manage risks to users within the road reserve.

4.4 Environmental Issues

Vegetation regrowth commonly occurs within the table drain and on the shoulder, and can include trees, shrubs or grasses. Larger vegetation within the road formation causes a number of problems and should be removed with the exception of natural grasses:

- Trees have the potential to be a hazard to motorists as there is reduced room for error.
- Trees, shrubs and grasses can obscure guide posts, signage, and reduce sight distances at intersections and property entrances
- The growth of trees, shrubs and grasses at near the carriageway can cause distress to a road surface
- The accumulation of trees, shrubs and grasses in the drainage systems can restrict drainage, which in turn can cause flooding and erosion of the roadway

Grading is generally used for maintenance works to shoulders and drainage systems where there has been accumulation of debris or wear of carriageway edges. Where vegetation regrowth has occurred, and this is the only maintenance issue, then slashing/spraying will be used instead of grading, where it is practical to do so.

5. Alice Springs Town Council Verge Responsibilities

ASTC promotes bare earth principals for all verges within the municipality (refer to Verge Development Permit). ASTC has the responsibility and authority to enforce the guidelines within this policy. This could include directions to landholders to remove certain works in the road reserve that do not conform to the ASTC Verge Development PSD. Failure to complete directions may result in ASTC removing the policy non-conformances and recovering associated costs.

Responsibilities of ASTC including but not limited to:

- Mowing of Verges or lawns established by ASTC
- Fire Breaks
- Tree Planting
- Tree Maintenance
- Tree Safety
- Tree Removals
- Tree Preservation
- Tree Diagnosis
- Pest Treatment
- Stump Removal and Stump Grinding
- Weed Eradication except for natural grasses
- Policy Enforcement
6. **Verge Requirements:**

An **Approved** Permit to work within the Alice Springs Town Council Road Reserve must be obtained from the ASTC prior to any works being commenced on any road reserve. The application form and ASTC requirements are contained in this protocol. The 1800mm footpath corridor is to be maintained in the road reserve adjacent to the property boundary. The Rural Roads Verge Management Policy covers items such as:

- a) Materials
- b) Plants
- c) Rocks & Fencing
- d) Storage of Materials
- e) Mulch
- f) Watering

A traffic management plan including a risk assessment must accompany the application. The traffic management plan will explain in detail all measures that will be undertaken to ensure pedestrian and vehicular safety for the duration of the project. All material is to be retained within the area of the permitted works.

The 1800mm adjacent to your lot boundary is the footpath corridor and the surface needs to be maintained as a firm walking surface (bare earth, slashed grass or similar). Points to be considered in the application must be the type of material that will be used, plant selection, rocks or fences, storage of materials, irrigation, the quantities used, traffic management plan, risk assessment and barriers used to stop material spilling onto road formation.

**a) Materials:**

- Non organic mulch material (gravels, crushed sandstone) should have a maximum particle size of 12mm in diameter. Organic mulch materials should also contain smaller rather than larger particles. Larger sized materials such as river rubble can be used as missiles and may become dangerous if spilled onto footpath or roadways.

- Approved organic and/or non-organic mulch or similar ground treatments must be stable and properly contained. Roads drains empty into the Todd River without treatment. Care must be taken to ensure that the road, drains and footpath are protected for such matter for environmental and safety purposes.

**b) Plants:**

- The use of endemic (native plants from the local area) and/or Australian native plants in preference to exotic plants. ASTC actively promotes the arid zone landscape character of the town and supports the use of techniques most applicable to enhancing that character. Please refer to the support document “Preferred Plant Species for Landscaping in Alice Springs”.

- Special consideration must be given to tree selection. Tree species lists have been co-ordinated into two separate lists:
  - Tree Species List (Non Powerlines Side of Verge) – Trees in this selection list have been chosen because of there ability to survive in the Central Australian climate
  - Tree Species List (Under Powerlines) – Tree in this selection list have been chosen because of there ability to survive in the Central Australian climate and do not grow tall enough to encroach into powerlines.

- Areas of consideration in regards to tree species selection must include the mature size of all plants, ensure the plants do not cause an obstruction for pedestrians, not to grow into overhead powerlines or cause line of sight problems for pedestrians and/or motorists.
• Foliage which is on the verge or growing on your block and overhangs the footpath, must be pruned to maintain a minimum height of 2.4 metres clear above footpaths and pruned back in line with the inside edge of the footpath (including hedges and ground covers) below this height. For safety purposes, pedestrians must have access to the entire width of the footpath.
• The no work zone and a strip of low vegetation and/or an even, stable surface must be maintained to a minimum of 1800mm within the footpath corridor for pedestrian access.
• Foliage, materials or structures are not to cause a line of sight problem for vehicles or pedestrians when using, entering or exiting an intersection, driveway or footpath.
• Vegetation should not exceed 600mm in height within 3 metres of any driveway, to ensure that a clear line of sight is maintained when entering or exiting property.
• ASTC guidelines and Power Water Corporations regulations require that:
  - Maximum planting height of any plants as per tree species list for trees on powerlines side of the verge within the 5 metre wide corridor under the powerlines (2.5 metres either side of the power poles)
  - Use the 45º angle from the base of the power pole to work out where it is safe to plant tall trees in private property (a 10 metre tree can be planted a distance of 10 metres from the power line)
  - Plants trees from the ASTC recommended trees species lists

**c) Rocks and Temporary Fencing:**
• Rocks – not less than 500mm X 500mm X 300mm and no larger than 1500mm X 1000mm X 500mm may be permitted on the verge.
• Landscape rocks are to be positioned a minimum of 1800mm from the front of the lot boundary, driveways or footpaths and are not to protrude into the footpath corridor. They are to be installed with a minimum gap of 1500mm between each rock. Clear line of sight must be maintained, so larger rocks (over 600mm high) must be at least 3 metres from any driveway.
• Temporary protective fencing is permitted (with prior approval), if constructed and maintained in a safe condition and clearly visible at night, in areas where new landscaping requires protection. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic must not be disrupted during the works. If pedestrian and vehicular access is impeded, a traffic management plan must be attached to direct pedestrians and vehicles safely up to, through and past the work zone. Work must be completed within 12 weeks. If the duration of works extends past the 12 week deadline, an extension application may be applied for.
• Permanent fencing of any kind is not permitted within the verge area.

**d) Storage of Materials:**
• Materials can be temporarily stored on the verge area, however an Approved Permit from the ASTC must be obtained prior to any storage of materials on any verge. This can be arranged through the ASTC Rangers Department. Conditions are attached to approvals for the temporary storage of building materials or other objects on verges. No materials shall be stored within the 1800mm footpath corridor. Materials shall only be stored for 12 weeks on the verge.

**e) Mulch:**
• a. The type of mulch used in verges must consider pedestrian and cycle traffic. In areas which have or may have high levels of pedestrians and/or cycle traffic, and where there is no formed footpath; the landscape design must include an even, stable and safe right of way for pedestrians.
• b. Mulching of planted areas conserves water by retaining soil moisture, maintains a more even soil temperature, reduces erosion and compaction, reduces weed growth and helps to ensure deep root development.
c. Gravel mulches are available in different colours and textures that can be used to enhance the design. Gravels of a maximum particle size of 12mm are preferred to minimise the potential use as missiles. The use of uncompacted course river sand and red sands as both a mulch and material and/or design feature is only recommended where pedestrian access in minimal

d. Organic mulch should be pasteurised or partially composted to reduce the possibility that it contains weed seeds and diseases.

e. The type of mulch used in verges must not be to fine as it has the potential to become a dust issue.

f) Watering:

- The harsh climate affects the establishment of trees and shrubs due to increased transpiration and desiccation during the hot periods and the action of frosts during winter.
- Insufficient depth of watering will also encourage shallow root growth that will be unable to sustain the plant if irrigation is discontinued which will ultimately lead to trees being uprooted during windy conditions. Well designed and maintained drip irrigation systems and appropriate mulching will help overcome these challenges.
- When installing poly irrigation pipe under concrete footpaths and driveways, it is advisable to sleeve the pipe within a PVC conduit with a slightly larger diameter.
- Automated irrigation systems are labour saving devices but must be programmed correctly for the time of the year, the type of plant, age of the plant and must be installed, monitored and maintained correctly and regularly.
- Deep infrequent watering is strongly encouraged as opposed to light, frequent watering.

7. Street Trees:

ASTC has adopted two separate tree species lists. One list for verges with powerlines on the verge side and one list for non-powerlines side of the verge. ASTC periodically checks and carries out any necessary pruning and/or removal of street trees. If you wish to prune or remove any trees from the verge, Verge Development Permit must be obtained from ASTC.

ASTC is not responsible for the maintenance of any completed verge landscaping work that has been approved by ASTC. ASTC is not responsible for the upgrade of verges throughout the municipality. A minimum standard of 1 tree per property frontage is the responsibility of ASTC.

ASTC guidelines and Power Water Corporations regulations require that:

- Maximum planting height of any plants as per tree species list for trees on powerlines side of the verge within the 5 metre wide corridor under the powerlines (2.5 metres either side of the power poles)
- Use the 45° angle from the base of the power pole to work out where it is safe to plant tall trees in private property (a 10 metre tree can be planted a distance of 10 metres from the power line) Plants trees from the ASTC recommended trees species lists

Adequate protection of street trees is required. This can be achieved by:

- Not placing building materials or vehicles within the root zone of the tree (drip zone plus 2 metres)
- No unapproved excavation within the drip zone of the trees
- No excavation for services within 3 metres of the tree trunk
- Ensure that the ground level around street trees is not altered and that materials are not built-up around the base of any trees
If any of the street trees are causing concern or may be considered as hazardous, report it to the ASTC Depot (08) 89 500 583 and staff will access the issue and rectify problems. Concerns over:

- Termites
- Hollowing of trees
- Safety concerns - Line of sight on roadways, pedestrian access, hanging branches
- Tree ownership

ASTC is not responsible for trees that are encroaching into or over powerlines. The PowerWater corporation is responsible for these trees and can be contacted on 1800 245 092. **REMEMBER: Ensure that the ASTC Tree Species List is consulted for all tree plantings within the municipality. It is imperative to gain APPROVAL from “Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority” to plant trees, remove trees or prune trees in areas of significant cultural importance and/or heritage value, replacement or planting of non-native trees.**

8. **MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES:**

8.1 **Carriageways and Shoulders**

8.1.1 **Unsealed Roads**

- The carriageways and shoulders of unsealed roads are graded as the need dictates. Re-sheeting is used in conjunction with grading, rolling and watering and performed when necessary.

8.1.2 **Sealed Roads**

The carriageway and edges are maintained by edge patching, pot hole patching, surface deformation restoration and surface re-sealing as required. The shoulders are maintained by grading between the sealed road edge and the bottom of the un-sealed road shoulder. Shoulder maintenance is important because:

- Excessive edge wear has the potential to be hazardous to vehicular and pedestrian traffic
- An exposed edge of seal leads to bacterial decay of the bitumen
- Vegetation growing in the shoulder can promote moisture intrusion into road pavement, reducing its strength

Guide Posts are to be provided:

- At causeways and culverts
- At intersections
- At any significant horizontal road alignment change and replaced as required

8.2 **Table Drains**

Negative environmental impact caused by soil deposition and erosion is repaired as required. Grass and low level vegetation is controlled by slashing/spraying. The control of vegetation within the formation is important to improve motorist safety at night where wildlife or stock may also be on the reserve.

8.3 **Sight Distances at Intersections**

Adequate sight distances at intersections is required for the safe operation of traffic at the intersection. The sight at intersections is recommended in Austroads – Intersections at Grade and the distances set out below show typical distances to be used in rural areas. The sight distance is measured for the entering vehicle located 7 metres from the potential conflict point. Where the sight distances recommended in
Austroads cannot be achieved Stop or Giveway signs may have to be installed to the standards set out in Australian Standard 1742.2 - Traffic Control Devices for General Use. Typical safe intersection sight distances are shown below:

- For an 80km/hr through road speed: 175 metres
- For an 100km/hr through road speed: 250 metres

### 8.4 Roadside Verges

The verge can be vegetated providing:

- There is to be no works within 1800mm footpath corridor
- Trees do not interfere with access to the drainage system by plant (e.g. a high grader)
- Do not restrict emergency services
- Vegetation does not become a fire hazard to adjoining properties
- Vegetation does not represent a danger to road users caused by the screening of wildlife and livestock.

### 8.5 Slashing and Vegetation Control

#### 8.5.1 Slashing

- Collect litter prior to slashing
- Slash all grass and vegetation including shrubs and trees with a butt size of up to 100mm in diameter
- Trim vegetation to a height of 100mm or less above the ground

#### 8.5.2 Vegetation Control

- ASTC controls and eradicate vegetation around road structures and furniture to ensure their visibility to motorists and to prevent damage by fire, by spraying herbicides and/or other chemical substances
- ASTC treats all noxious weeds listed in the tables of the DECLARED NOXIOUS WEEDS UNDER THE NT NOXIOUS WEEDS ACT, and other nominated weeds, in the road reserve by spraying herbicides and all other suitable chemicals
- Maintain Council plant by cleaning and washing down to minimise the possible transfer of noxious weeds between worksites
- A Verge Development Permit must be submitted by the landowner to retain existing vegetation. For new landscaping works, a permit must be approved by ASTC. ASTC reserve the right to enforce the NT Fire Act if no application is received.

#### 8.5.3 Bushfire Control

- ASTC undertakes the slashing of road reserves to maintain fire breaks.

NOTE: The NTFRS recommend a **4 metre** slashed fire break on either side of a property boundary which also enables clear vehicular access in an emergency situation.

### 8.6 Public Involvement and Consultation

Landholders are invited to discuss proposals for revegetating road verges with Council in line with ASTC verge development guidelines included in this document. This can include proposals by the landholder to manage a section of road that includes:

- Planting of approved species that will not interfere with road or service requirements
- Maintenance of plants including watering, pruning, fire protection, and vegetation control
- Mowing and maintaining the verge in a neat and tidy state

Any queries can be directed to Technical Services ASTC (08)89 500 500

9. Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) – This authority has the responsibility of ensuring the preservation of all sacred sites and significant areas. AAPA authority certificates are required for any works on or near significant trees and sacred sites. AAPA must be consulted on establishing the heritage and cultural significance of trees and sites. AAPA phone number is 0889 526 366.

10. You Must Not:
- Begin works prior to being granted an Approved Verge Development Permit from the ASTC
- Substantially raise or lower the level of the verge in any way
- Install any structure/object that may impede or disrupt pedestrian/vehicular traffic and/or which poses a potential threat to public safety
- Plant any plant that is considered a noxious weed
- Plant any plant that is deemed by ASTC to pose a risk to the public or which may cause damage to existing or future infrastructure
- Undertake any works and/or install any material on the verge that is deemed by ASTC to be inappropriate
- Store or place any substance, material or thing on the verge without Written Approval from ASTC Rangers Department
- Excavate on the verge without Approved Verge Development Permit from the ASTC and Dial Before You Dig information sheets attached to the verge application
- Prune or remove any street trees or shrubs without Approved Verge Development Permit from the ASTC
- Allow any foliage to obstruct pedestrian access to footpaths
- Park or store any type of vehicle or trailer on a verge (registered or un-registered or parts there-of) Written Approval from the ASTC Rangers Department

11. Your Application for Verge Development Permit

Please submit your application to the Alice Springs Town Council, PO Box 1071, ALICE SPRINGS, NT 0871. Your application must contain 2 copies of the Landscape Plan. Plans must be to scale at 1:100; 1:50; or 1:20 [1cm = 100cm (1m), 1cm = 50cm (0.5m), 1cm = 20cm (0.2m)] where possible. All applications with intentions of maintaining existing vegetation or applying to carry out landscape works on the verge to contain the following:

Completed Verge Development Application Form (signed by owner/authorised agent) containing:
- Name of Owner
- Lot Number
- Property Address/Postal Address
- Contact Phone Numbers

Completed (signed) Services Approval Form containing:
- Location, size and species of existing plants (if any)
- Trees or plants proposed to be removed (if any)
- Proposed finished surface levels (approximate heights above above/below the kerb)
d. Details of all underground and overhead services (power, water, gas, telephone, fibre optics, cable television, etc) Dial Before You Dig information sheets
e. All existing verge infrastructure (footpaths, streetlights, signs, hydrants, phone booths, etc)
f. Type of paving, its thickness and method of construction (substrate, material & reinforcing)
g. Position, height and depth of rocks
h. Proposed infrastructure and/or furniture
i. If watering harvesting – details of site storm water overflow system (for heavy rainfall events)
j. Planting schedule including botanical and common names of plant species, number of plants of each species used, details of the minimum size at planting, spacing of plants and estimated tree canopy spread
k. Areas to be mulched (organic and non-organic) – include type of mulch and maximum particle size
l. Areas of turf (if any)
m. Irrigation system, layout and proposed watering schedule
n. The finished surface levels
o. Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority Certificate
p. Traffic Management Plan
q. Control of Soil Erosion Control / Stability (in liaison with NRETA)

12. Attachments

Attachment 1: Application for Verge Development (Residential)
Attachment 2: Application for Verge Development (Commercial)
Attachment 3: Tree Species List (Verge on the Opposite Side of the Powerlines)
Attachment 4: Tree Species List (Powerlines Side of the Verge)
Attachment 5: Grasses of Alice Springs
Attachment 6: Planting Guide – Trees and Shrubs in Alice Springs
Attachment 3:

TREE SPECIES LIST
(verge on opposite side of the powerlines)

Trees in this list are for verge plantings. Note that these trees will grow tall and must not be planted under power lines.

**Common Name:** Mulga  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia aneura  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 4–15m  
**Width:** 3–9m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Long-lived local tree that makes attractive group plantings. Various leaf forms available. Yellow flowers after rains. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Gidgee  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia cambagei  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 5–12m  
**Width:** 4–7m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Small, dense-canopied, long-lived tree. Yellow flowers produced in winter give off a strong odour. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Dogwood  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia coriacea  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 3–10m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Attractive broad-canopied tree with greyish-green foliage and yellow wattle flowers in autumn or winter. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Red Mulga  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia cyperophylla  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 3–12m  
**Width:** 2–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Attractive small tree with reddish curled bark and weeping foliage when young. Yellow flower spikes after rains. Frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Weeping Myall  
**Scientific Name:** *Acacia pendula*  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 4–9m  
**Width:** 4–6m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Attractive grey-leaved tree with weeping habit and masses of golden flowers in summer or autumn. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Whitewood  
**Scientific Name:** *Atalaya hemiglauc*  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 3–9m  
**Width:** 1.5–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental greyish–green small shade tree well suited to Alice gardens. White flowers in summer. Readily self-seeds. Frost sensitive when young, but will re-shoot after damage.

**Common Name:** Desert Kurrajong  
**Scientific Name:** *Brachychiton gregorii*  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 4–8m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental shade tree with shiny lobed leaves and yellowish bell-shaped flowers after rain events. Frost and drought tolerant.
**Common Name:** Kurrajong  
**Scientific Name:** Brachychiton populneus  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 6–20m  
**Width:** 3–6m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental shade tree with cream or pink bell-shaped flowers in summer months. Drought and frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Gawler Hybrid Bottlebrush  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Harkness"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 3–7m  
**Width:** 3–6m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Fast-growing bottlebrush useful as small shade tree or screen. Red brush flowers in spring or summer. Drought tolerant. Attracts birds.

**Common Name:** White Bottlebrush  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon salignus  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 4–12m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental bottlebrush with creamy brush flowers in spring or summer, and pink-tinged new growth. Frost sensitive when young.

**Common Name:** Weeping Bottlebrush  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon viminalis  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 3–12m  
**Width:** 2–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Weeping bottlebrush with crimson brush flowers in spring or summer. Frost sensitive when young. Bird attracting.
**Common Name:** White Cypress Pine
**Scientific Name:** Callitris glaucophylla
**Native to:** Local
**Height:** 3–10m
**Width:** 3–8m
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium
**Comments:** Attractive tree with rough bark and grey–green foliage. Not suitable for planting in lawns. Can be grown in pots. Frost tolerant.

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**Common Name:** Coolibah
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus coolabah ssp. arida
**Native to:** Local
**Height:** 6–15m
**Width:** 5–10m
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast
**Comments:** Useful shade tree for Alice gardens. White flowers in summer. Frost tolerant and grows well in low–lying areas. Bird attracting.

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**Common Name:** Bastard Coolibah
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus intertexta
**Native to:** Local
**Height:** 6–18m
**Width:** 5–12m
**Growth Rate:** Fast
**Comments:** Useful shade tree with smooth white bark on the upper trunk. Creamy–white flowers in the cooler months. Well suited to Alice conditions. Frost tolerant. Bird attracting.
**Common Name:** Large-flowered SA Blue Gum  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus leucoxylon ssp. megalocarpa  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 5–10m  
**Width:** 5–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Fast-growing shade tree with a smooth-barked cream trunk and red flowers in spring and summer. Frost tolerant. Bird attracting.

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**Common Name:** Swamp Mallet  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus spathulata  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 5–12m  
**Width:** 3–7m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental reddish-brown smooth-trunked tree with cream flowers in winter-summer. Frost tolerant.

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**Common Name:** Thozets Box  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus thozetiana  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 7–20m  
**Width:** 4–10m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental gum with a smooth grey-barked trunk and white flowers. Frost tolerant

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**Common Name:** Coral Gum  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus torquata  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 6–10m  
**Width:** 5–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental black-trunked shade tree with blue-grey leaves and pinkish-red flowers in summer. Frost sensitive when young
**Common Name:** Lemon–flowered Gum  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus woodwardii  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 4–12m  
**Width:** 3–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Ornamental gum with blue–grey leaves, pendulous habit and large yellow flowers. Susceptible to die–back in Alice.

**Common Name:** Beefwood  
**Scientific Name:** Grevillea striata  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 6–10m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Stately tree with drooping blue–grey foliage and a dark, furrowed trunk. Masses of creamy–yellow flowers in summer. Frost tolerant. Can be susceptible to bag–moth caterpillar damage.

**Common Name:** Supplejack  
**Scientific Name:** Ventilago viminalis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 4–10m  
**Width:** 4–6m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Comments:** Pendulous small tree with grey–green foliage and small greenish flowers in winter or spring. Drought and frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Candelabra Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia holosericea  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–8m  
**Width:** 3–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Straggly spreading shrub with large silvery leaves and yellow flower spikes in spring. Frost tolerant when mature. Short-lived

**Common Name:** Coonavittra Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia jennerae  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–5m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Slender blue–grey foliaged wattle with reddish stems and masses of golden flowers in the cooler months. Useful quick growing screen. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Undoolya Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia undoolyana  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 3–6m  
**Width:** 2–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Attractive rare desert wattle with shiny green leaves and golden flowers in winter. Drought tolerant

**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Dawson River Weeper"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 2–5m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Pendulous bushy shrub with bright red bottlebrush flowers in spring and summer. Moderately frost tolerant
**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Kings Park Special"
**Native to:** Australia
**Height:** 2–5m
**Width:** 2–4m
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast
**Comments:** Hardy bushy shrub suitable for screen plantings. Red bottlebrush flowers in spring or summer. Frost tolerant. Bird attracting

![Desert Bottlebrush](image)

**Common Name:** Desert Bottlebrush
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon pauciflorus
**Native to:** Central Australia
**Height:** 2–6m
**Width:** 1.5–4m
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast
**Comments:** Attractive fine-leaved pendulous desert bottlebrush with small pink or red brush flowers in late summer. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Mallee Red Gum
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus gillenii
**Native to:** Local
**Height:** 3–7m
**Width:** 2–6m
**Growth Rate:** Medium
**Comments:** Multi-stemmed small gum tree with white flowers. Frost and drought tolerant

![Mallee Red Gum](image)

**Common Name:** Salt River Mallee
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus sargentii
**Native to:** Australia
**Height:** 5–10m
**Width:** 4–7m
**Growth Rate:** Fast
**Comments:** Hardy small tree with masses of cream flowers in summer. Drought and frost tolerant. Tolerates saline soils
**Common Name:** NULL  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus "Torwood"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 5–8m  
**Width:** 6–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Pendulous shade tree with yellow/red flowers in spring. Can suffer die-back in Alice gardens. Frost sensitive when young.

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**Common Name:** Fork-leaved Corkwood  
**Scientific Name:** Hakea divaricata  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 4–7m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Comments:** Ornamental small tree with a dark furrowed trunk and creamy white flower spikes in winter or spring. Drought and frost tolerant.

---

**Common Name:** Black Tea-tree  
**Scientific Name:** Melaleuca bracteata  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 2–7m  
**Width:** 2–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Dense screening shrub with white flower spikes in summer. Tolerates extra watering. Frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Inland Tea-tree

**Scientific Name:** Melaleuca glomerata

**Native to:** Local

**Height:** 2–5m

**Width:** 3–5m

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Comments:** Fast-growing screen plant with whitish paper bark, grey–green leaves and yellowish–cream flowers in summer. Tolerates frost and salty soils.

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**Common Name:** Boobialla

**Scientific Name:** Myoporum acuminatum

**Native to:** Local

**Height:** 2–4m

**Width:** 2–3m

**Growth Rate:** Fast

**Comments:** Dense rounded shrub with shiny leaves and clusters of small white flowers in spring/summer. Frost and drought tolerant.

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**Common Name:** Quandong

**Scientific Name:** Santalum acuminatum

**Native to:** Central Australia

**Height:** 2–6m

**Width:** 1.5–4m

**Growth Rate:** Slow to Medium

**Comments:** Elegant small tree with drooping branches and bright-red edible fruits in spring or summer. Parasitic on roots of other trees. Frost sensitive when young. Can be difficult to establish.

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Inland Tea Tree

Boobialla

Quandong
Attachment 4:

TREE SPECIES LIST (powerlines side of the verge)

**Common Name:** Halls Creek Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia cowleana  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–4m  
**Width:** 1.5–2m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Attractive wattle with large sickle–shaped foliage and yellow flower spikes in spring. Relatively short–lived but grows easily from seed.

**Common Name:** Des Nelson Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia desmondii  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 4–5m  
**Width:** 2–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Attractive dense–canopied tree with dark green leaves and yellow flower spikes in spring. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Sandhill Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia dictyophleba  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 1–4m  
**Width:** 1–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Open fine–leaved wattle with large deep–yellow flowers produced over the cooler months. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Witchetty Bush  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia kempeana  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 2–5m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Dense grey–green shrub useful as a screen or windbreak. Yellow flower spikes produced after rains. Frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Latz’s Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia latzii  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–5m  
**Width:** 2–7m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Comments:** Slow-growing rare NT wattle with dark-green leaves and yellow flowers after rainfall. Frost and drought tolerant.

**Common Name:** Umbrella Bush  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia ligulata  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 1.5–5m  
**Width:** 3–7m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Fast growing spreading shrub useful as a screen. Yellow flowers in spring. Frost and drought tolerant.

**Common Name:** Salt Wattle  
**Scientific Name:** Acacia maconochieana  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 3–5m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Attractive silvery-foliaged wattle with yellow flowers. Tolerant of salty soils, frost and drought.

**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)  
**Scientific Name:** Caliistemon "Hannah Ray"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 2–4m  
**Width:** 2–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Weeping shrub with crimson bottlebrush flowers in spring and summer. Frost tolerant. Bird attracting
**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Injune"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 1.5–3m  
**Width:** 1–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental pendulous shrub with pink bottlebrush flowers over most of the year. Moderately frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Mauve Mist"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 2–4m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Dense shrub with ornamental mauve bottlebrush flowers in spring or summer. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Bottlebrush (cultivar)  
**Scientific Name:** Callistemon "Reeves Pink"  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 2–4m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental dense shrub with masses of pink bottlebrush flowers in warmer months. Moderately frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Desert Poplar  
**Scientific Name:** Codonocarpus cotinifolius  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 2–10m  
**Width:** 2–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Attractive fast-growing, short-lived tree with pinkish bark and greyish–green leaves. Requires sandy soils. Frost sensitive. Difficult to obtain plant.
**Common Name:** Native Honeysuckle  
**Scientific Name:** Eremophila alternifolia  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 1–3m  
**Width:** 1–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Open shrub with narrow leaves and pinkish–red spotted flowers for most of the year. Bird-attracting, and frost and drought tolerant

**Common Name:** Creek Wilga  
**Scientific Name:** Eremophila bignoniiiflora  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–6m  
**Width:** 1.5–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Bushy shrub or small tree with shiny leaves and purplish–flecked creamy flowers in late winter. Frost and drought tolerant

**Common Name:** Twin-leaf Emu Bush  
**Scientific Name:** Eremophila oppositifolia  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 1.5–4m  
**Width:** 1–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental shrub with narrow leaves and cream or pink flowers over most of the year. Moderately frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Red Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus eucentrica = E. socialis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 3–12m  
**Width:** 4–8m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Bushy mallee with red branch tips, blue–grey leaves and cream flowers in spring. Tolerates frost and limey soils.
**Common Name:** Book-leaf Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus kruseana  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 2–5m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental rounded grey-leaved small tree with lemon–yellow flowers in autumn or winter. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Shiny-leaved Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus lucens  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 1–3m  
**Width:** 1–3m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Shiny green narrow-leaved gum with clusters of creamy flowers in summer. Frost and drought tolerant

**Common Name:** Round-leaved Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus minniritchi = E. orbifolia  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 1.5–6m  
**Width:** 2–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental rounded blue-grey leaved gum with reddish-brown curling bark. Yellow-green flower clusters in Winter-spring. Frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Red-bud Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus pachyphylla  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 1.5–4m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental multi-stemmed shrubby gum with large pale yellow flowers in autumn–spring. Large woody seedpods. Frost tolerant

Red-Bud Mallee

**Common Name:** Finke River Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus sessilis  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 2–4m  
**Width:** 3–5m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Straggly mallee with grey–green leaves and yellow or cream flowers. Frost and drought tolerant. Bird attracting

**Common Name:** Victoria Spring Mallee  
**Scientific Name:** Eucalyptus trivalvis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 3–6m  
**Width:** 3–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium to fast  
**Comments:** Multi-stemmed small tree with grey–green leaves and white or cream flowers. Frost and drought tolerant.

**Common Name:** Long-leaf Corkwood  
**Scientific Name:** Hakea lorea ssp. lorea = H. suberea  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 3–8m  
**Width:** 3–4m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow  
**Comments:** Distinctive local small tree with needle-like leaves and large green–yellow flower spikes in winter or spring. Drought and frost tolerant.

Long-Leaf Corkwood
**Common Name:** Native Apricot

**Scientific Name:** Pittosporum angustifolium = P. phylliraeoides var. microcarpa

**Native to:** Local

**Height:** 2–8m

**Width:** 2–4m

**Growth Rate:** Medium

**Comments:** Graceful weeping tree with creamy flowers and bright orange fruit. Susceptible to beetle, mite damage, scale and frost when young.
Attachment 5:

GRASSES of ALICE SPRINGS

**Common Name:** Kangaroo Paw  
**Scientific Name:** Anigozanthos flavidus forms  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 0.4–2m  
**Width:** 0.5–1m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental strap–leaved plant with distinctive long–stemmed flower spikes. Flowers yellow, orange or red. Bird–attracting. Frost sensitive, and can be susceptible to fungal disease.

**Common Name:** Greybeard Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Amphipogon carinicus  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 0.2–0.6m  
**Width:** 0.3m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Dense clumped grass with attractive grey flower spikes

**Common Name:** Curly Wiregrass  
**Scientific Name:** Aristida inaequiglumis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.5–1m  
**Width:** 0.5m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Tall straw–flowered grass with spiky seed heads that can be irritating. Self–seeds once established. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Curly Mitchell Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Astrebla lappacea  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.9m  
**Width:** 0.3m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Dense tufted grass with interesting spike–like flowerheads. Suited to heavier soils. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Desert Bluegrass  
**Scientific Name:** Bothriochloa ewartiana  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.9m  
**Width:** 0.3m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Long–lived grass with purplish flowerheads. Tolerates wetter soils
**Common Name:** Golden Beard Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Chrysopogon fallax  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.5–1m  
**Width:** 0.4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Elegant tall–flowered grass with golden flowerheads. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Darling Lily  
**Scientific Name:** Crinum flaccidum  
**Native to:** Central Australia  
**Height:** 0.3–1m  
**Width:** 0.5m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Attractive native lily with large scented white flowers in summer. Frost and drought tolerant. Dies back in late summer.

**Common Name:** Lemon–scented Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Cymbopogon ambiguus  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.8m  
**Width:** 0.4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Attractive blue–grey leaved grass with fluffy silvery flowerheads. Aromatic foliage. Self–seeds once established. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Queensland Bluegrass  
**Scientific Name:** Dichanthium sericeum  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.8m  
**Width:** 0.3m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Slender tussock grass with bluish spike–like flowers that have distinctive golden–brown awns. Frost tolerant
Common Name: Silky–heads
Scientific Name: Cymbopogon obtectus
Native to: Local
Height: 0.3–0.9m
Width: 0.4m
Growth Rate: Fast
Comments: Attractive aromatic grass with silky white flowerheads. Frost tolerant. Prune back after flowering

Common Name: Katoora
Scientific Name: Sporobolus actinocladius
Native to: Local
Height: 0.3–0.4m
Width: 0.2m
Growth Rate: Fast
Comments: Densely–tufted grass with purple–grey flowering spikes. Frost tolerant

Common Name: Cotton Panic Grass
Scientific Name: Digitaria brownii
Native to: Local
Height: 0.1–0.6m
Width: 0.3m
Growth Rate: Fast
Comments: Attractive slender grass with silky purplish flowerheads. Frost tolerant. Self–seeds in Alice gardens

Common Name: Limestone Bottlewashers
Scientific Name: Enneapogon polyphyllus
Native to: Local
Height: 0.1–0.4m
Width: 0.2m
Growth Rate: Fast
Comments: Short–lived self–seeding grass with straw–coloured fluffy flowerheads. Frost tolerant

Common Name: Spiny–headed Mat–rush
Scientific Name: Lomandra longifolia
Native to: Australia
Height: 0.4–0.8m
Width: 0.5–1m
Growth Rate: Medium
**Common Name:** Curly Windmill Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Enteropogon acicularis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.4–0.9m  
**Width:** 0.3m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Sprawling tussock grass with unusual windmill–shaped flowerheads. Frost tolerant. Prune back after flowering.

**Common Name:** Silky Browntop  
**Scientific Name:** Eulalia aurea  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.4–1.2m  
**Width:** 0.5m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Dense tussock grass with bluish–green leaves and attractive silky golden–brown flowerheads. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Spiny–headed Mat–rush  
**Scientific Name:** Lomandra longifolia  
**Native to:** Australia  
**Height:** 0.4–0.8m  
**Width:** 0.5–1m  
**Growth Rate:** Medium  
**Comments:** Ornamental tussocky plant with narrow strap–like leaves and straw–coloured flower spikes. Frost tolerant.

**Common Name:** Native Millet  
**Scientific Name:** Panicum decompositum  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.8m  
**Width:** 0.4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Short–lived tufted grass with graceful, open straw–coloured flowerheads. Frost tolerant.
**Common Name:** Kangaroo Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Themeda triandra = T. australis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.6–1.3m  
**Width:** 0.4m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Attractive dense tussock grass with distinctive pendulous green and golden–brown flowerheads. Prune back after flowering

**Common Name:** Spinifex  
**Scientific Name:** Triodia species  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.2–0.6m  
**Width:** 0.2–1m  
**Growth Rate:** Slow to medium  
**Comments:** Spiky-leaved hummock grass with long-stemmed flowerheads. Not easy to establish in gardens. Frost tolerant

**Common Name:** Purple Plume Grass  
**Scientific Name:** Triraphis mollis  
**Native to:** Local  
**Height:** 0.3–0.6m  
**Width:** 0.2m  
**Growth Rate:** Fast  
**Comments:** Slender tufted grass with purplish flower spikes that fade to gold. Readily self–seeds in Alice gardens. Frost tolerant

**Common Name** Grasstree, Yacka  
**Scientific Name** Xanthorrhoea species  
**Native to** Central Australia, Australia  
**Height** 0.5–2m  
**Width** 0.7m  
**Growth Rate** Slow  
**Comments** Very distinctive grass–leaved plant with tall flower spikes. The Central Australian species is not cultivated, but southern species are available in nurseries from forest salvage operations. Grows well in pots. Careful watering and maintenance required
**Common name**  Tassel Sedge  
**Scientific name**  Carex fascicularis  
**Native to**  Central Australia  
**Height**  0.5–1m  
**Width**  0.6m  
**Growth rate**  Fast  
**Comments:**  Rare in Central Australia where it is restricted to waterhole fringes. Attractive pond edge plant. Divide clumps regularly. Frost tolerant
PLANTING GUIDE – TREES AND SHRUBS IN ALICE SPRINGS

CONSIDERATIONS IN PLANT SELECTION

In selecting plants for successful planting schemes – one where plants grow and function as required – consideration must be given to the following: plant function, plant origin, plant form, growing conditions and the services above and below where each plant will grow.

PLANT FUNCTION

In selecting a plant species, the function desired of the plant will give most direction on the best species to use. The functions a plant could fill fall into four categories: historical, ecological, amenity and control of views. These are explained in more detail below. For each different function, different plants are more appropriate. The plant descriptions, in alphabetical order, indicate each plants potential functions.

Historical Plantings

This may function to give consistency with existing historical planting, or be reference to a historic era or to complement a historic feature or building. Examples may include planting new cedar trees alongside a historical avenue of cedar trees or planting palm trees outside a building which commemorates early camel travel.

Ecological Planting

To bring the bush to the town
To emphasise or create the feeling of a particular ecosystem, for example using River Red Gums along creekbeds
To aid the long term ecological balance of an ecosystem
As part of rehabilitation schemes
Where the environment dictates a limited range of plants suitable for the particular growing conditions such as saline soils or flood prone areas

In ecological planting it is particularly important to use local species of plants and where possible to use locally collected seeds otherwise the ecological integrity may be compromised.

Amenity Planting

This refers to planting for human comfort including such things as shade, screening and windbreaks. Amenity planting is often required in high use areas such as urban parks and community spaces. A common need is deciduous trees which provide winter sun and summer shade. The plant descriptions indicate different amenities which various plants can provide.

Planting for Views

Planting may be used to enhance or to screen views. Plants may enframe some of the significant views in our towns or along the major roads, in these circumstances plants are chosen either to be low, as foreground only, or for height. Examples of how different planting may interact with the same view as illustrated.
Plant Origins
Plants in this booklet have been chosen due to their local origin. Often plants from other regions will satisfy the requirements of a planting scheme, but there are many reasons to select local native plants where they are appropriate:

- Local plants conserve the local character of a region both biologically and visually
- Local plants encourage native wildlife
- Local plants are best adapted to local conditions, they use less water than most others and are more drought tolerant
- Local plants need less maintenance than others as they get less pests and tend to need little or no pruning

Plant Form
The form of a plant is a major influence on its function. Similarly, tall trees are good for softening the look of unsightly land uses, but if they must be continually lopped to clear power lines, their usefulness is offset. The illustrations in the plant lists show the grown form of each plant wherever possible.

Growing Conditions
Growing conditions will determine whether plants will grow as required, or whether they will grow at all. Before selecting plants, determine whether the soil for planting area is sandy, clayey or rocky and whether there is a salinity problem. Determine also whether there is a water table which trees could tap into and whether there are any microclimate conditions which may affect the plants such as frost pockets, strong prevailing winds or occasional flooding.

Services
The location of overhead wires or underground services needs to be considered in plant selection. Planting should avoid creating necessity for pruning to keep power lines clear. Trees can disrupt supply of electricity, they are expensive to prune and may become seriously disfigured in the process. Trees which will eventually have all limbs above the wires are not still not acceptable to the Power and Water Authority because of the risk of falling limbs breaking wires and leaving them dangling over the footpath. Dealing with underground services is addressed in a separate section, solving root problems.

A rule of thumb for overhead services is not to plant any tree with a mature height over 5 metres within 4 metres of the underside of any wires. Plantings should also be avoided where it will block the light for street lights. Check also for existing underground irrigation.

All underground services – contact Dial Before You Dig
PLANT SUPPLY
The plants in this Plant Species List will not always be available for immediate planting. It is always advisable to advance order plants for any landscaping project. Varying with the time of year it may take 3 to 6 months to grow a plant to the minimum suitable size for planting. Seeds for the plants are not always available either. A lead time of up to one year may be required if seeds need to be collected before plants can be grown. When advance ordering plants, it is better to over order on quantities and have plenty spare than to loose plants to frosts or thefts making it necessary to seek substitutes at a later date.

SOLVING ROOT PROBLEMS
Tree roots can cause damage to underground services. Where ceramic pipes are in use for sewerage or water, there is a risk of invasion by the roots of many dryland plant species. The use of plastic pipes for services eliminates the root problem, but it is still not advisable to plant a tree directly over any services as the weight of a large tree can displace pipes. Small shrubs can usually be planted within one metre of most services without detrimental effect to the service; however any plants too close to an underground service will be severely damaged any time the service needs to be exposed for repairs or maintenance. Tree roots may also lift kerbs, road and footpath pavements. Root problems can be avoided or substantially reduced by a number of means including:

Location of planting:
It is always advisable when planting where there may be services underground to contact the relevant authorities – Power and Water Authority, Telecom – to establish exactly what services are present, where they are and what restrictions apply to planting in their vicinity. Where space permits, all trees and shrubs can be planted at a suitable distance from the service.

Design of planting:
The use of PVC pipe for water and sewerage has substantially reduced the problems of root invasion into services. Where problems are anticipated with old ceramic pipes, or corroding concrete pipes, the preventative measure may be to bring forward the replacement date of the pipes.

Planning of Services:
There are many examples where the placement of services within footpaths prevents the planting of trees, but where different placement would have allowed for easy coexistence. By good planting such occurrences can be avoided. Some Council areas come to an agreement with the various bodies in charge of services, as to where within a footpath any particular service can be located. In areas where the footpath is narrow, service trenches are used.

Deep Watering:
Tree roots lift pavements by growing close to the surface. Often roots grow close to the surface because this is where moisture is most available. Encouraging roots to grow down wards can reduce the damage caused by surface roots. Roots can be encouraged to grow downwards by deep watering. This may be simply achieved through the irrigation timetabling. Short frequent watering encourages shallow roots where longer more spaced watering encourages roots downwards. It may be necessary
in some cases to put shrubs and trees on separate timers. Where trees are not on drippers, a piece of agricultural pipe, 600mm long, placed within the watering hole, as a hown in figure 3, overleaf, will facilitate deep watering.

**Use of Root Barriers:**

These are impervious barriers in the ground that direct root growth downward. Purpose designed strong plastic strips are commercially available for this purpose. They come in different depths, for use in differing circumstances. Root barriers can be installed in two different ways as illustrated in figure 3. A tube like barrier can be made for individual trees in footpaths, special joiners are supplied. Alternatively a linear barrier can be placed between a road and screen planting.

**PLANTING IN ROAD VERGES**

Two special issues arise when planting in road verges; the safety of road users, cyclists and pedestrians and who owns and is responsible for the maintenance of the road verge.

**Safety**

For the safety of drivers, cyclists and pedestrians it is essential that sufficient visibility is available across intersections and driveways. The line delineating the extent of clear vision that a driver needs is called a sight ne. Another safety issue relates to the presence of solid objects, such as tree trunks, within the road verge.

**Responsibility**

The responsibility for road verges within any town will belong to either the local council or the Department of Transport and Works. Verges do not belong to the residents. Before planting on any verge, consultation with the responsible body is necessary. A map of the distribution of Transport and Works within Alice Springs is shown at figure 4, overleaf. The roads involved are:

Stuart Highway, Larapinta Drive, Undoolya Road, Sadadeen Road, Ross Highway, Stott Terrace, Stephens Road (from South Terrace to Links Road) and Gap Road (from Telegraph Terrace to South Terrace including the Roundabout).

All other streets within Alice Springs are the responsibility of the Alice Springs Town Council.