

Grass Verge Maintenance Policy

Department:	Parks and Recreation
Document ID:	2009991
Approved by:	Council 18 December 2024
Effective date:	31 January 2025
Next review:	1 July 2026

Purpose:

The Grass Verge Maintenance Policy covers the responsibilities of property owners for maintaining the verge bordering their property. It also covers verges outside Council properties.

Principles and objectives:

Due to the large number of urban road verges across the district Council does not maintain verges or frontages of private property throughout the district, except where otherwise provided for in this Policy. Adjacent property owners are encouraged to mow verges outside their property.

Scope:

Vegetation and fire risk is not managed under this policy.

Landscaping including removal of grass, laying of gravel or similar product is not part of this policy. Street tree planting is covered by CODC Tree Policy, and all other road reserve landscaping is subject to CODC Roading approval.

Definitions:

Verge	the area between the street and the property boundary. It includes the outside verge (between the kerb and footpath) and the inside verge (between the footpath and property boundary). For the purpose of this policy a verge is defined as located in an area with
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	a speed limit of 70 km/hr or less.
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Policy:

Verges Adjacent to Private Property

The Verge mowing policy applies to all areas within the Central Otago District Council area.

1. The maintenance of all grass verges is to be encouraged as the civic responsibility of the adjacent property owner.
2. In Roxburgh and Lake Roxburgh Village only, where the adjacent property owner is by way of illness, age, or similar restrictions, unable to do the work or is unable to make alternative arrangements (including applying to Ministry of Social Development), the Council may undertake verge cutting up to twice a year. The Council may require a medical certificate in such cases. This is a grandfather clause relating to previous arrangements in these areas and is time limited to the 2024-2027 policy. It will be reviewed in 2027.
3. Requests to maintain verges outside this this policy will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by Councils Parks and Recreation Manager.

Grass Verges Adjacent to Council Property

Council maintains grass verges outside Council Property including Reserves, Cemeteries, Facilities (Pools, Halls, Community Centres, Libraries).

Related documents:

Central Otago District Council Tree Policy

Central Otago District Council Roading Policy