

# Popular garden designs for the North West

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

This guide will help you to take a fresh look at your garden and make it more waterwise, lower maintenance and more beautiful.

## 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 do your planting and maintenance.

## Hydrozoning

Hydrozoning is grouping plants with similar watering needs. It's an effective tactic to conserve 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 the water used by

households. Waterwise gardeners reduce watering times in spring and autumn (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 a chunky coarse mulch to your garden can greatly reduce evaporation loss, improve the soil, reduce plant stress and weed growth, as well as improve the appearance of your garden.

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.

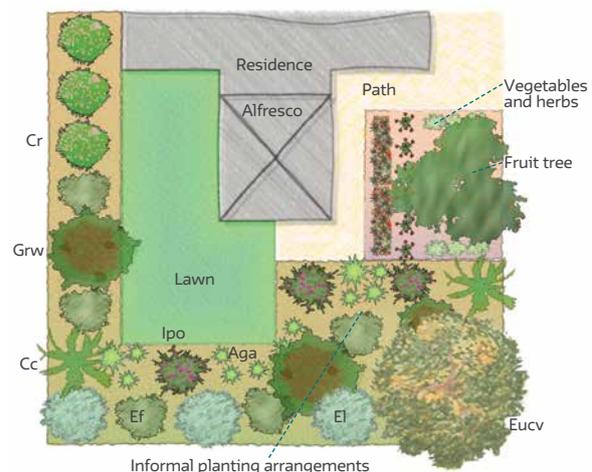
## Coastal Garden

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

### Plant Species

ABRV	COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME
<b>GROUNDCOVERS</b>		
Cr	Wild Jack Bean	<i>Canavalia rosea</i> *
Ipo	Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i> *
<b>SHRUBS</b>		
Ef	Burra	<i>Eremophila fraseri</i> *
Grw	Wickham's Holly Grevillea	<i>Grevillea wickhamii</i> *
Cc	Green Bird Flower	<i>Crotalaria cunninghamii</i> *
El	Berrigan	<i>Eremophila longifolia</i> *
<b>GRASSES/STRAPPY LEAF PLANTS</b>		
Aga	Agave	<i>Agave attenuata</i>
<b>TREES</b>		
Eucv	Eucalyptus 'Snow Queen'	<i>Eucalyptus victrix</i> *

\* These species are endemic to WA



### LEGEND

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

FRESH  
WATER  
THINKING





# Tropical Garden

Filled with bold foliaged plants that provide shade, shelter and colour throughout the year this garden will have a tropical feel without needing a lot of water.

## Plant Species

**ABRV COMMON NAME BOTANICAL NAME**

**GROUNDCOVERS**  
 Es Echeveria setosa *Echeveria setosa*  
 Ipo Beach Morning Glory *Ipomoea pes-caprae*  
 Swf Sturts Desert Pea *Swainsona formosa*\*

**SHRUBS**  
 Ef Burra *Eremophila fraseri*\* Δ  
 Aa Jacob's Coat *Acalypha amentacea*  
 Ao Desert Rose or Impala Lily *Adenium obesum*  
 Cm Natal Plum *Carissa macrocarpa*  
 Eum Crown of Thorns *Euphorbia milii*  
 Zf Cardboard Palm *Zamia furfuracea*  
 Bo Fern *Blechnum orientale*\*

**GRASSES/STRAPPY LEAF PLANTS**  
 Cra Giant Crinum Lily *Crinum asiaticum*  
 Sans Mother in Laws Tongue *Sansevieria trifasciata*

**TREES**  
 Ad Elephant Ear Wattle *Acacia dunnii*\*  
 Adg Boab *Adansonia gregorii*\* Δ  
 Ara Alexander Palm *Archontophoenix alexandrae*  
 Ps Screw Palm *Pandanus spiralis*

\* These species are endemic to WA Δ Optional species (not included in illustration)



### LEGEND

Hydrozone 1 (yellow square) Hydrozone 2 (green square) Lawn (green square)  
 Hydrozone 3 (including vegetables, herbs & fruit trees) (orange square)

# Vegetable Garden

Having your own vegetable garden is a great way to enjoy fresh and healthy produce. It is possible regardless of your garden size and using waterwise gardening techniques will minimise your water use.

The location of your garden and what you create it in are important decisions when establishing your garden. Vegetables need a good source of sunlight; somewhere not too sunny in summer with sufficient sunlight in winter is ideal. A spot protected from wind by a building or hedge will keep your vegetables happy.

When choosing where to establish your garden, if space is limited, a raised container is ideal as they keep 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.

Deciding what to grow and planting seasonal vegetables will ensure the best results and minimise water use. By planting from seeds you can stagger when the vegetables are ready and 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.

Hand watering twice a week or installing sub-irrigation or drippers will see 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.

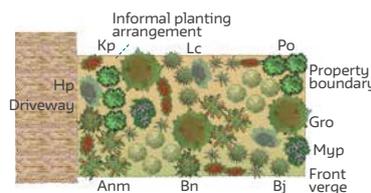
# Verge Garden

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

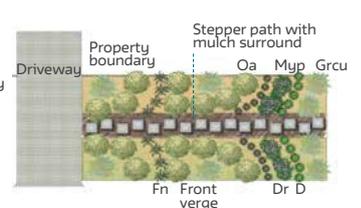
Before planning your verge check with your local council for any guidelines or restrictions in place.

To transform your lawned verge firstly 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. There is no 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.

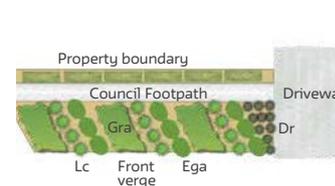
### Informal



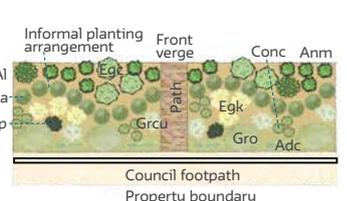
### Contemporary-modern



### Formal



### Coastal



# Verge Garden cont'd

## Plant Species

ABRV	COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME
<b>LOW SHRUBS</b>		
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>
<b>GROUND COVERS</b>		
Hp	Snake Bush	<i>Hemiandra 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>
Myp	Creeping Boobialla	<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>
Ega	Eremophila 'Amber Carpet'	<i>Eremophila glabra</i>

ABRV	COMMON NAME	BOTANICAL NAME
<b>GRASSES/STRAPPY LEAF PLANTS</b>		
Conc	Grey Cottonheads	<i>Conostylis candicans</i>
Myp	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>

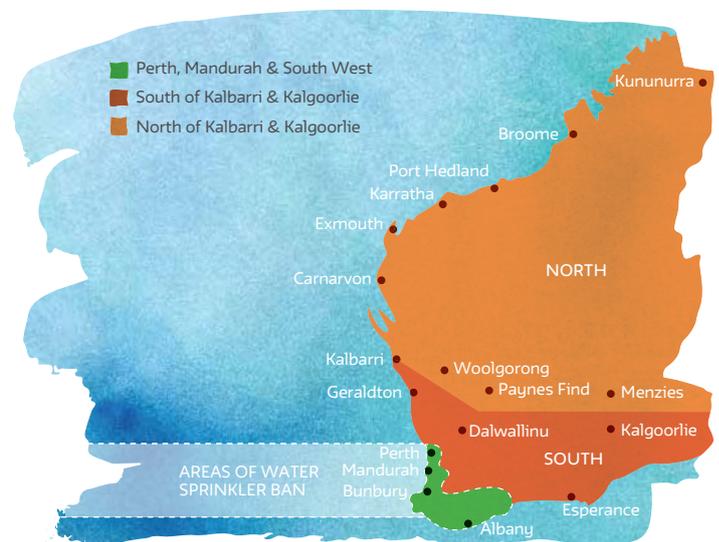
## Watering your new garden

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 chance to establish itself by applying for a watering exemption. Visit [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au) 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.

- Towns north of (and excluding) Kalbarri and Kalgoorlie can use sprinklers on alternate days.

You can find your watering days on our website by simply supplying your postcode and street number at [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au)



## Look for the Waterwise symbol

For professional assistance 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.

When creating your new garden look for Waterwise and Smart Approved Watermark symbols when choosing gardening products such as mulch, plants, greywater systems and sprinklers.

For more information on creating a waterwise garden visit [watercorporation.com.au](http://watercorporation.com.au)

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](http://watercorporation.com.au/contact)

