

Name:	Edible Pocket Garden Guidelines		
Type:	Council Guideline		
Owner:	Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	Director Lifestyle and Community		
ELT Approval Date:	5/11/2018	Next Review Date:	1/07/2020
Records Number:	372235		

1 PURPOSE

The Edible Pocket Garden guidelines have been developed to encourage the community to engage in community-based activities and practice sustainable living, while activating local green spaces. This guideline does not refer to community gardens which require a more formal approval process and structure. A simple approval process is in place for residents to gain approval for their edible pocket garden.

2 PROCESS

Approval is required before any works have commenced.

- Step one – Resident is to contact the Lifestyle and Community team on 8935 9943 or email palmerston@palmerston.nt.gov.au to discuss their idea; include a simple sketch, proposed species and proposed location.
- Step two – The City may approve the edible pocket garden, or request more information from the resident before approval is granted.
- Step three – The City will provide written approval for the resident to proceed with the garden or if the proposal wasn't suitable, the resident will be provided with an explanation.
- Step four – The City will inspect the garden following installation and will continue to be checked annually. Periodic inspections may also occur.
- Step five – if at any time the garden poses a safety hazard or does not meet the guidelines, the City may ask you to undertake works to meet requirements or remove the edible pocket garden altogether.

3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Policy, the following definitions apply:

Term	Definition
Garden	Edible pocket garden

4 GUIDELINE STATEMENT

- 4.1 Edible pocket gardens must not interfere with the existing use of the proposed location.
- 4.2 The garden must not require significant changes to the landscape or interfere with landscaping regimes or services currently in place.
- 4.3 Items that could be considered a hazard must not be used in the garden eg. dangerous plants, sharp items or objects, pesticides and herbicides or plants that require a lot of maintenance or water.
- 4.4 The gardens must not be fenced and remain accessible to all members of the community.

- 4.5 If the proposed location for a garden is directly adjacent to a private property, a letter of support must be sought from that property owner.
- 4.6 Gardens may need to be disturbed to allow access for utilities service providers for maintenance or repair works.
- 4.7 The City reserves the right to remove the garden if any of the guidelines fail to be met.
- 4.8 The City is not responsible for personal injury that may occur during the gardening process.

5 ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

- 5.1 Edible Pocket Garden Policy

6 RESPONSIBILITY OF RESIDENTS

- 6.1 Ensure that approval has been granted before works commence.
- 6.2 Ensure that the edible pocket garden meets the guidelines at all times and the plants are maintained, including the harvesting of produce and watering when required. It is essential the watering requirements of the proposed plants are known and understood as Council's irrigation systems cannot be amended to suit the garden without large scale works. Supplementary hand watering by the resident will be required as turf irrigation is unlikely to sustain food crops, especially new plants.
- 6.3 Ensure that the choice of plants suit the location and do not pose a risk to the community.
- 6.4 Supply and purchase of resources required for the garden
- 6.5 Residents remain responsible for their own safety and for leaving the garden in a safe condition for other park users.
- 6.6 Residents must remove all tools and materials that are used on site.
- 6.7 Contact appropriate authorities to ensure it is safe before any ground work is undertaken.