



**Public Works
Department**

17500 Midvale Ave N
Shoreline, WA 98133 4905
(206) 801 2400
Fax (206) 801 2785
row@shorelinewa.gov
www.shorelinewa.gov

Planting in the Right-of-Way

Many Shoreline residents are interested in planting vegetables and other plants in the areas on the side or fronts of their homes in the area that is city right-of-way. Often the plantings can be accomplished in this area without impacting or jeopardizing safety of our residents or the environment; essentially, plantings cannot impact visibility, drainage, and pedestrian access/utilization.

To support this interest by residents of the community, the City has developed these procedures and guidance on what can or cannot be done within the right-of-way. Prior to making any changes, please read both pages of this document carefully to verify if your plans meet the conditions for setbacks and height requirements.

Can I plant food or other vegetation in the Right-of-Way?

Yes. The City of Shoreline allows the growing of vegetables and other vegetation as long as it meets the setback and height guidelines, and does not impede pedestrian traffic or impact the drainage. Please note that this does not include any planting boxes, trees of any kind or other structures or hardscapes.

Do I need a permit?

A formal right-of-way permit is not required for gardening activities, provided they meet all the criteria detailed in this document. No structures are allowed in the right-of-way; this includes planter boxes and rocks. Prior to installing any plantings, please complete the Notice of Planting in the Right-of-Way form and submit it to the City either via e-mail to row@shorelinewa.gov, via fax to (206) 801-2785, or to the address on the left via regular mail. A permit will not be issued; however, the form will be reviewed and maintained in the City's records.

What about trees?

Trees are not allowed under this process. Similarly, existing trees cannot be removed. Planting trees requires a right-of-way permit, including standard fees. A list of trees that may be approved can be found at <http://shorelinewa.gov/our-city/environment/trees>, and hard copies of this list are also available at the Planning and Development front counter at the Shoreline City Hall.

Responsibility after the plantings are completed

The area remains City right-of-way, and as such, the City may need to utilize the area in the future for a variety of purposes, including use by utilities. The City can make or authorize any such improvements at any time and is not obligated to relocate any plantings or other encroachments. The property owner is responsible for maintaining the plantings at all times, meeting the conditions specified in this document, and removing or relocating the plants at the direction of the City.

Helpful Links

Native Plant Guide: <http://green.kingcounty.gov/GoNative>

Noxious Weeds: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/animalsandplants/noxiousweeds.aspx>

Setback, Height and Other Requirements for Planting in the Right-of-Way

Setbacks:

- For roadways without curbs or sidewalks, planting areas must be set back 10 feet from the edge of pavement to provide adequate space for pedestrians, and where applicable, parking.
- For roadways with curbs, there must be a one-foot setback from the curb and a 4- to 6-foot wide area for use by pedestrians.
- Adequate access (five feet) must be maintained around all utility structures such as utility poles, fire hydrants, water meters, etc.

Planting heights:

- Vegetation within five feet of driveways or 30 feet of intersections shall not exceed 24 inches, in order to provide adequate safety and sight distance for cars.
- Plants and vegetation can be not be more than 30 inches high based on the surrounding ground level.
- No trees can be planted within the right-of-way without a permit.

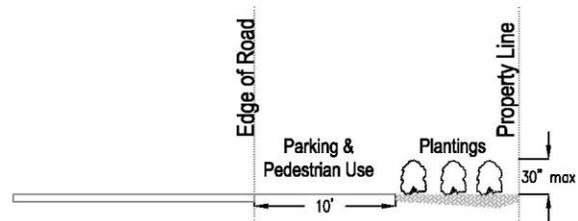
Surface water and drainage:

- Surface water must not be impeded by the installation of plants or planting areas.
- No pipes can be installed, or ditches filled, or other means of altering the natural drainage.
- Planting areas will not erode dirt or other sediments into the drainage system.

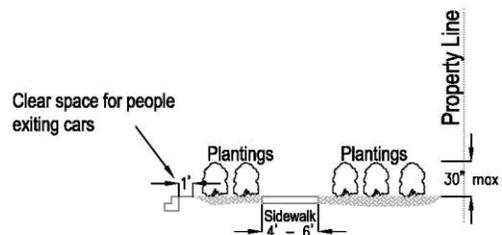
Structures and other objects:

- Planter boxes, or other structures or barriers (including rocks), are not covered under this document.
- Any structures placed in the right-of-way, regardless of height or size, are subject to the City's approval and require a Right-of-Way Use Permit application, including the payment of the associated fees.

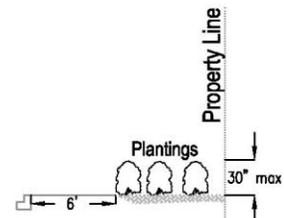
Examples:



No Curb



Curb with sidewalk



Curb with no sidewalk



**Public Works
Department**

**Right of Way
Services**

17500 Midvale Ave N
Shoreline, WA
98133 4905
(206) 801 2400
Fax (206) 801 2785
row@shorelinewa.gov
www.shorelinewa.gov

Notice of Planting in the Right-of-Way

For more information, please refer to the "Planting in the Right-of-Way" sheet, available at the Planning and Development Services directory. You must fill out all the applicable fields and submit the signed form to either one of the following:

- Via fax to (206) 801-2785;
- Via mail to Public Works Department - Right-of-Way Services, 17500 Midvale Ave N - Shoreline, WA 98133; or
- Electronically, by typing your name in CAPITAL LETTERS on the signature line. Then save the completed form and send it as an attachment to row@shorelinewa.gov.

Name of applicant	Date
Residential address	ZIP Code
Main phone	E-mail
Specific location of plantings	
Please describe the type of vegetation to be planted in the City's right-of-way at the location:	

The plantings meet the following requirements:

Plantings are set back appropriately:

- 10' from edge of pavement, OR
- 1' from the curb and provide or maintain 4-6' of pedestrian walkway
- 5' from utility poles, fire hydrants and water meters

Vegetation height:

- Does not exceed 24" within 5' of driveways
- Does not exceed 24" within 30' of intersection
- Does not exceed 30" from ground level
- Does not include trees of any kind (installation or removal)

Surface water and drainage:

- Is not impeded by plantings or planting areas
- Is not altered by pipes or other methods
- Area will not erode into existing drainage system.

Responsibility after planting is complete:

- I understand that I, as the applicant, am responsible for all maintenance of the plantings.
- I understand that the City may need to utilize, or authorize the use, of this area for future projects or improvements.
- I understand that the City is not responsible or obligated to relocate any plantings or other encroachments.

Signature

Date

<i>For City Use Only</i>	
_____ Received by	_____ Date