

Boulevard Landscape Guidelines

The Boulevard Landscape Guidelines have been created to assist property owners with landscaping on the boulevard. Landscaping the boulevard space is something property owners can do to beautify their neighbourhood, increase their own satisfaction and convenience while maintaining the boulevard, increase biodiversity, provide food for pollinators and increase community pride.

Before starting work, review the Boulevard Landscape Agreement guidelines and fill out the [Boulevard Landscapes Agreement](#) form. These guidelines do not apply to City maintained boulevard space, separated or buffer.

1. Locate underground utilities.

For everyone's safety, you must confirm the location of underground utilities with Sask1stcall.com (1-866-828-4888) before doing any work to your boulevard.

You must ensure there are no utilities or other underground structures that could be disturbed or damaged. It is a serious safety risk to damage underground utilities. You are accountable for any disturbance or damage.

2. Decide what to plant.

Plant material on the boulevard may not exceed 1 metre (m) in height when mature and must follow the setbacks outlined in step 4.

You may plant annuals, perennials, shrubs, herbs, vegetables, fruit and related plant materials. Please keep in mind that the City cannot guarantee the suitability of your boulevard for growing food.

- It is possible for contaminants to be present in soils at potentially unsafe levels, particularly in neighbourhoods with a history of industrial and commercial use, or along major roadways.

- If you are uncertain whether the soil is safe, you may choose to have a soil test done.
- If you are concerned about soil contamination, do not grow food in your boulevard garden. Any food grown on the boulevard is consumed at your own risk.

3. Incorporate setbacks and access and restrictions.

The boulevard is a shared space and needs to be accessible to everyone, including pedestrians, vehicle passengers, those with limited ability, and work crews who may need to utilize the space for snow storage, provide winter maintenance or access utilities. To ensure full access:

- Please be courteous of neighbours and passers-by by keeping the boulevard tidy, clear of the sidewalk and free of garbage.
- Remember, people will open their car doors into your landscape. Consider leaving a path of 30 to 60 cm along the street planted with grass or a walkable groundcover to give car doors space to open. Do not let your plants spill over onto the sidewalk or street
- Also, consider a path through your garden so people can walk through the space, rather than on your plants.
- If a mid block crossing connects to your boulevard space leave a path for people to cross to the sidewalk
- Fire hydrants must have 1m clearance according to the Regina Fire Bylaw (Link) and the appearance or color of a hydrant must not be altered.
- Ensure all bus stops, utility covers and other City infrastructure, like utility poles are visible and accessible from the street and the sidewalk.
- Plantings must be no taller than 1m. Choose plants that grow to a mature height of 1m or less or keep plants low by trimming.
- Maintain shorter plants closer to intersections, driveways, alleys, and/or where visibility may be a concern. Plants and temporary structures should be no taller than 75cm in these perimeters:
 - 10m from an intersection corner or pedestrian crosswalk
 - 6m, or 4.6m if separated boulevard, from alley or industrial/commercial driveway
 - 2m from a residential driveway

- Please refer to the [Traffic Bylaw 9900 Schedule H\(1\) Intersection Sight Line Controls](#) for details and diagrams on requirements.
- Please also be aware of setbacks for fences and other obstructions in the boulevard (buffer) as outlined in [Traffic Bylaw 9900](#) Schedule H(2)-Minimum Setbacks for Fences and Recreational Vehicles and additional information on [building fences](#).
- Prohibited, noxious, and nuisance plants, as identified in Saskatchewan's Weed Control Act, are not permitted. (saskinvasives.ca)
- Maintain the current grade; do not mound or berm soil.
- The use of pesticides, such as insecticides (for insects), herbicides (for weeds and plants) fungicides (for fungi) and rodenticides (for rodents) are not permitted.
- If plant heights are deemed to be a safety concern, or do not meet the above guidelines, the City of Regina reserves the right to ask that plants be trimmed/removed, or to have them trimmed/removed.

4. Protect City trees.

Only trees planted by the City of Regina are permitted on the boulevard. You may plant small shrubs if they do not exceed 1m in height when mature and meet the access requirements above.

City of Regina trees are protected by the [Forestry Bylaw](#). Ensure you protect City trees when designing, constructing and maintaining your boulevard.

- All trees growing on the boulevard belong to the City of Regina.
- Maintain 50cm clearance for every 10cm of tree trunk diameter. Do not rototill or dig in this zone as it will cause harm to roots.
- Do not nail or tie signs, trellises or other fixtures to a street tree. Do not tie cords or decorative lights.
- Take care not to cut roots, branches or bark.
- Keep soil or compost from contacting the bark as moisture causes bark to rot, threatening the health of the tree.
- Do not place more than 10cm of compost or soil directly above tree roots as it may lead to shallow rooting.

- Questions or concerns regarding street trees should be directed to [Service Regina](#) (306-777-7000).

5. Consider structures and surfacing.

Temporary structures are allowed on the boulevard. Examples include: Potted plants, chairs, bird baths, ornaments and paving stones. Temporary structures must easily be removed by one person and must not interfere with access, safety, visibility and height restrictions. The City of Regina is not liable for any damage to privately placed boulevard structures.

Aggregate up to 40mm (1.5 inches), no larger rocks or boulders, may be used in your boulevard landscape.

Wood mulch, such as post peelings or long shredded bark or wood, may be used. Water all mulched areas to lock the mulch in place and help the finer pieces settle to the bottom for maximum weed control. It is your responsibility to ensure mulch does not wash away and plug up the catch basins/storm sewers.

Mulch and aggregate must be kept below the level of the curb, not mounded higher than curb level. Limit the flow of water and dirt onto the sidewalk and road as much as possible

Artificial turf, and in-ground irrigation systems are allowed provided they do not interfere with underground utilities and maintenance access.

Paving stone may only be used for paths up to 1m wide through the boulevard.

Permanent structures or installations are not permitted. These include raised beds, buildings, trees and signage.

6. Remember, winter maintenance.

The separated boulevard space will still be used for winter snow storage. Snow plowing, snow storage and street sweeping can pose a risk to landscape material and plants that are near the curb or to shrubs.

- Remove temporary structures from the boulevard before the first snowfall.
- Keep the boulevard accessible for snow removal and snow storage.

- Be aware that the City uses a sand mix with salt on the road. Salt may damage plant and soil health.
- Be aware that boulevards are used for snow and ice management and landscaping material may be at risk so please choose accordingly. The City will not provide any compensation for damage to the boulevard space whatever the cause, including work completed by City crews on or near the boulevard, including snow and ice management.

The City will not be liable to any damage caused to the Boulevard landscape including landscape material, plants, soil etc. on account of snow storage and snow clearing activities.

7. Be Responsible.

Property owners are required to maintain their transformed boulevard space.

You are liable if your boulevard space causes harm to people, pets, vehicles or other property. The City of Regina does not take responsibility for injury or damage caused by your transformed boulevard space.

The City of Regina reserves the right to ask that plants be trimmed, or structures be moved at any time.

The boulevard is a shared space, so please be courteous of neighbours and visitors by following the above guidelines.