

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW?

Keeping your property frontage neat and tidy by mowing lawns and trimming overgrown hedges and trees will beautify your street. It will also be safer for people using the footpaths. The Invercargill City Council does not rate for maintenance of frontages, therefore it is appreciated that property owners maintain their own grass frontages or ditches in rural areas as part of their general property maintenance.

Trees and shrubs - trimming

Property owners are asked to keep their trees and shrubs trimmed so as not to cause a hazard to those using the footpaths or create an obstruction to sight lines near street corners or entrances. Overhanging branches are particularly dangerous for people on mobility scooters using the footpaths. Electricity and telecommunication cables are laid immediately outside property boundaries and you must obtain permission from Council before you start any digging and planting on street verges. Council does not want to discourage people from having pride in their street appearance. However, the services (like power lines) that run along the street verges could be dangerous if you cut one and it could also be quite costly to get fixed.



Paving of frontages

Property owners who wish to have their frontage paved may apply to Council for permission. However, property owners are required to pay for this work.

Council owned plants and trees

Council's Parks Department has planted and looks after all the trees in the streets. Property owners should contact the Parks Department if they have any concerns regarding these trees or plants. Requests can also be made to the Parks Department if you believe your street is in need of a tree for beautifying your neighbourhood.

Gravel on frontages

Gravel and large stones are not permitted to be placed on frontages as a landscaping material as it readily becomes dislodged and scattered on to footpaths. This can cause a potential injury to pedestrians, particularly the elderly and people using mobility scooters.



Landscaping of frontages

Landscaping of frontages in urban and rural areas may be permitted, however each situation is considered on its merit. Please contact Council's Roading staff on 211 1777 or email roading@icc.govt.nz, who will assist you with your landscaping ideas.



Rural Frontages

In rural areas the frontages to properties are very different to those in urban areas. There may be large grass verges, ditches and water courses, or in areas such as Otatara the verge may have native bush growing, with no well-defined boundary.



Council does maintain all culverts under roads for watercourses and some piped networks.

If you live in a rural area where drainage is not rated for, you are responsible for maintaining ditches to ensure they are operational and kept tidy.

Council does permit grazing of frontages in rural areas, however you must apply to Council before grazing and follow some sensible safety rules. Please see the separate brochure on "Licences for Roadside Grazing".

Property owners are expected to maintain any existing bush that is an extension of their property, which grows on the roadside. Bushes need trimmed to ensure motorists have good visibility and be a distance off the edge of the road so pedestrians are able to walk safely. Care must be taken when planting (trees etc) close inside the boundary to ensure that these plantings do not interfere with overhead electricity lines.

Please Ask

Before you consider doing anything outside your property boundary please contact Council's Roading Department on 2111 777 or email roading@icc.govt.nz. Staff will be able to advise you on the best and safest way to undertake matters within the road reserve and what your responsibilities are.

DID YOU KNOW?

In your property frontage there may be a water connection along with storm water and sewer connection pipes from your house to the mains in the street. Running along the street frontage are electricity and telecommunication cables and other utilities like water tobies, man holes and fire hydrants. Therefore special permission is required from Council before any person is allowed to excavate or dig in any part of the road or verge. This is to protect the services and make sure the person undertaking the work operates safely for everyone. This also means that "House For Sale" signposts cannot be hammered into the frontage as this could also cause damage to cables or services.