



## Proposed Planting Plans

### Introduction

After the 1992 Brazil Earth Summit, Waitakere City adopted the goals of Agenda 21 by becoming an Eco-City in 1993. This means the Council is committed to protecting and rehabilitating the natural environment. Therefore, when you build, subdivide, or carry out any land use activity in Waitakere City you may be required to submit a Landscape Treatment Plan with your resource consent application. If you propose a complex landscape treatment, you will need to show planting on a separate Proposed Planting Plan. Landscape Treatment Plans are required for development in the Working and Community Environments, and for medium density housing developments, and may be required elsewhere.

(Note, these plans should be submitted and approved prior to issue of a resource consent, rather than be made a condition of consent).

### A Proposed Planting Plan Should:

1. Be well designed, and have high visual and environmental quality. A suitably qualified practitioner should prepare the plan.
2. Be Consistent with Waitakere City's goal of being an "Eco-City."
3. Use native species found naturally in the area, exclusively in the vicinity of significant natural features such as streams, the coast, landform features and restoration areas, and at least partially in other locations.

Locally sourced plants should be used in preference to named cultivars and ornamental forms of native plants, which may come from other regions. In general, use natural forms of native and exotic species in preference to golden or variegated leaf forms. Exotic species listed in the Environmentally Damaging Plants Appendix of the Operative District Plan, or species known to invade native bush areas, should not be used.

For more information on recommended plants for your area, see Waitakere City's "A Guide for Planting and Restoring the Nature Of Waitakere City".

4. Show the location and species identification of existing significant trees or areas of vegetation. It must also distinguish between trees that will remain and those, which are to be removed or relocated.
5. Identify all proposed planting in a legible manner. Where few species are proposed, stamps representing different species may suffice, but it is preferred that a symbol enabling ready identification of species be used, for example "M.ex." for *Metrosideros excelsa*, "Ps.l." for *Pseudopanax lessonii*. The number of plants for each species should be indicated also. Trees should be distinguished from shrubs, with some indication of their grade at planting shown.
6. Space trees suitably with regard to their size at maturity.
7. Show underplanting, shrubs and ground cover species, suitably spaced so that in garden areas there are few open spaces remaining within two to three years. In general 1m spacing between shrubs is a preferred maximum, but for some larger species such as NZ flax, 1.5m is more suitable. For native bush establishment or restoration in a non-garden setting and involving mostly trees and shrubs, 1.5m spacing between plants is sufficient. By streams, 750mm spacing may be required.  
  
For herbs and ground cover species, spacing may be to 300mm or 400mm, according to the species used.
8. Be suitably legible to enable quick evaluation by Council's Landscape Architect and Monitoring Officer.
9. Show site boundaries and any frontage road, or roads associated with it.
10. Show the north point.
11. Be of a suitable scale, be practical to use and easy to follow. Good scales to work at are 1:100 and 1:200. For larger sites a smaller scale may be preferable to enable the site to be shown on one A1 sheet. (Please show the scale used on plan).

12. Show the location of all proposed buildings and structures, plus existing buildings and any changes to their location or structure in the new plan. Outside lighting standards, signs or banners should be shown also.
13. Show the existing and proposed layout of paths and hard surfacing such as driveways and parking areas. It should indicate what existing layout is to remain also.
14. Identify garden areas, grass areas, retaining walls and fences.
15. Show the depth and standard of soil to be provided in the planting area. This should be written on the plan. For example:

“...soil in gardens to be Central Soils garden mix to 300mm depth, and free of any debris...”; or

“...soil conditioner shall be incorporated into planting areas at the rate of 1m<sup>3</sup> per m<sup>2</sup> area, and worked into the top 180mm of soil. Soil conditioner shall be one part mushroom compost, one part nitrogen stabilised granulated bark or approved equivalent...”.
16. Give information about the proposed mulch for garden areas. This should include the depth of the woodchip mulch that will be applied to the garden areas and its grade or maximum particle size.
17. Provide a key identifying any symbols used and a list of the existing or proposed species, showing their grade, with common names alongside. Please supply the total number required of each species, so that this list can be used as a schedule. The schedule should show the grade of plant to be planted.

This information is only a **guide** to Proposed Planting Plans. If you have any queries, or require further information, please ask the Civic Centre Counter Staff or telephone the Council Call Centre on (09) 839 0400.