



POLICY

Policy No. 12-192 – 24/07/15

Department: Administration

BOULEVARD GARDENING

SCOPE: This policy applies to property owners within the Town of Nanton who wish to implement non-standard landscaping on municipal boulevards adjacent to their properties.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Regulate and encourage responsible landscaping practices on town boulevards while ensuring safety, accessibility, and aesthetic considerations.
2. Establish permit policy for CAO implementation pursuant to a boulevard garden under section 22.1 of the *Nanton Traffic Bylaw*, as amended.

DEFINITIONS:

Boulevard: The strip of land between the curb and the sidewalk, or where no sidewalk exists, between the curb and the property line.

Non-standard Boulevard Landscape Treatment: Any landscaping treatment on the boulevard that deviates from the standard turf grass.

Xeriscaping: a water-conservation practice selecting plants that are well-adapted to the local climate and use efficient irrigation methods.

Wild animal attractants: any substance or material, with or without an odour, that attracts or is likely to attract wildlife, including food or other edible products—whether intended for humans, animals or birds—grease and compost other than grass clippings, leaves or branches.

POLICY:

1. Registration and Guidelines:

Property owners must sign and submit this policy to the Town of Nanton before initiating any boulevard gardening activities.

2. Servicing Responsibility:

Property owners are responsible for identifying and protecting all underground services (e.g., gas, phone, Hydro, cable) prior to commencing any work on the boulevard.

3. Planting Guidelines:

Boulevard gardens may include perennial or annual plants up to 60cm in height, and shrubs up to 30cm in height, except within street intersection lots where plants must not exceed 30cm in height.

Decomposable mulches are permitted.

Planting of noxious weeds, and invasive plants is strictly prohibited.

Planting of wild animal attractants is discouraged.

The removal or planting of public trees and shrubs are subject to other Town bylaws and policies – see section 3.1.

Xeriscaping landscaping approaches that reduce the need for irrigation are preferred.

Property owners are encouraged to discuss their planting and landscaping intentions collaboratively with their neighbors.

3.1 The removal or planting of public trees and shrubs is regulated by the Town. Failure to observe the regulations of the *Public Tree Bylaw* could result in fines or other enforcement action.

3.1.1 *Nanton's Urban Forest* policy, as amended, provides guidance on species selection for public boulevard trees and shrubs.

3.1.2 The donation of new Public Trees or funds for their purchase is done in accordance with the *Public Asset Donations Policy*, as amended.

4. Setback Requirements:

A 30cm setback must be maintained from sidewalks, curbs, and driveway edges.

5. Surface Drainage:

The boulevard landscape must maintain positive surface drainage.

6. Sidewalk Maintenance:

Property owners must keep the sidewalk clear of debris as per municipal codes.

7. Town Authority:

The Town of Nanton reserves the right to require, with due notice, that the boulevard be restored to standard turf grass at the property owner's expense if non-compliant materials are not removed.

In discretionary situations requiring access to infrastructure for emergencies or any other purpose, the Town may remove any items from the boulevard without prior notice or subsequent compensation/restoration.

This policy must adhere to all other bylaws established by the Town of Nanton.

8. Property Line and Installation Restrictions:

Property owners must accurately determine their property line as the public boulevard is not an extension of their property.



Permanent installations such as irrigation systems, fencing, or hard mulches (e.g., pea gravel, small rocks) are generally not permitted on the boulevard.

REFERENCE NUMBER: 12-192-24/07/15
REPLACES POLICY: n/a

Hard mulches that are integral to a xeriscaping approach while optimizing positive drainage and buried utility access may be considered in consultation with Town representatives.

Setback regulations for retaining walls, fences, and hedges must be followed as per zoning by-laws.

9. Maintenance and Restoration:

In the event of boulevard works, the Town will notify homeowners two weeks in advance to allow salvaging of plant material.

If the boulevard is disturbed during emergency works, no notification will be provided.

Homeowners may request to reestablish boulevard gardens within 30 days of restoration, weather permitting; otherwise, the boulevard will be restored to standard turf.

Boulevard garden investments are executed and maintained entirely at the expense and risk of the permitted property owner including but limited to cleaning up and managing seasonal elements such as rucks from sanding and other debris.

10. Access to Services:

Property owners must ensure clear and unobstructed access to above ground and underground services, including fire hydrants, curb stops, bell pedestals, gas lines, telecommunications cables, and electrical transformer boxes.

Acknowledgement of Policy:

I, _____, residing at _____ acknowledge that I have read and understand the Boulevard Gardening Policy established by the Town of Nanton. I agree to comply with all guidelines and requirements outlined in this policy. I understand that failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in the Town requiring the restoration of the boulevard to standard turf grass at my expense. I further acknowledge that this policy must conform to all other bylaws set forth by the Town of Nanton and that I understand that this represents a conditional permit for activity in a public boulevard pursuant to the *Nanton Traffic Bylaw*.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

RELATED DOCUMENTS:


AMENDMENTS / REVIEWS:

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)	Section # Amended	Comments




REFERENCE NUMBER: 12-192-24/07/15
REPLACES POLICY: n/a

John M


MAYOR

Date


CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date





REFERENCE NUMBER: 12-192-24/07/15
REPLACES POLICY: n/a

5 of 5

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. M.", is located in the bottom right corner of the page.