

How do I report potentially unlawful clearing?

If you are concerned about unlawful vegetation clearing, you can report it to DWER at pollutionwatchedwer.wa.gov.au or call the Pollution Watch hotline on 1300 784 782.



NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Head to denmark.wa.gov.au

- Send us an enquiry
- Find policies and guidelines at:
<https://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/residents/sustainability-and-biodiversity/vegetation-clearing.aspx>

Contact our Sustainability team

- enquiries@denmark.wa.gov.au
- (08) 9848 0300
- 953 South Coast Highway
(9am-4pm Mon-Fri)



VEGETATION CLEARING



Do I need approval to clear native vegetation on my property?

All clearing of native vegetation requires a permit from the Department of Water & Environmental Regulation (DWER) unless the proposed clearing falls within an exemption category. Exemptions can include:

- Clearing for fence line construction or maintenance
- Clearing for a cross-over
- Works that are part of a Development Approval granted by the Shire
- Firebreak & Fuel Management Notice compliance activity
- To address an imminent danger

You can find more information about DWER permit requirements and exemptions at: www.wa.gov.au/service/environment/environment-information-services/clearing-permits

Be aware that **exemptions do not apply within environmentally sensitive areas**, along waterways, or where known threatened flora or fauna habitat is deemed to occur. If you are unsure as to whether you require a clearing permit you can lodge a referral form on DWER's website.

For more information please contact DWER on (08) 6364 7000 or email info@dwer.wa.gov.au

What are the rules around clearing vegetation on road verges?

Road reserves are public land. Clearing of vegetation on road reserves requires prior approval from the Shire. Please note that this does not limit the maintenance of existing residential gardens. Refer to the Shire's Verge Policy for further information.

Can I clear undergrowth plants and scrub?

The same clearing requirements apply to the removal of undergrowth, scrub and all other types of native vegetation (including dead vegetation).

It is not just tall trees that provide biodiversity – in some types of native vegetation the most biodiversity is found in the flora and fauna of the forest floor.

What about non-native vegetation?

You do not need approval to clear non-native vegetation unless it is in a designated environmentally sensitive area.

Some native plants are easily confused with introduced species. Seek professional advice from a qualified arborist or horticulturalist if there is any doubt.

Why do I need approval for clearing?

Denmark is well known for its environmental qualities and unique landscapes, and this provides a broad range of benefits to our community. Maintaining these values requires all of us to play our part.

Regulations on clearing apply across the State. Our community prioritises the health and protection of our environment. Find out more in our Sustainability Strategy at <https://www.denmark.wa.gov.au/residents/sustainability-and-biodiversity.aspx>

