



# **Assist with landscape construction work**

AHCLSC201

By the end of this topic, you should be able to:

- Prepare materials, tools and equipment for landscaping work
- Undertake landscape work as directed
- Handle materials and equipment
- Clean up on completion of landscaping work

## What is landscape construction?

- Landscape construction may involve a range of different tasks, including:
  - Building of retaining walls
  - Setting up irrigation systems
  - Planting in designated areas
  - Installing paths, paving and stone features

A landscape architect is responsible for designing landscapes

A groundskeeper is responsible for maintaining planted areas and landscapes

## What is landscape construction?

- The materials to be used in landscape construction will depend on the work to be undertaken.
- However, some common materials include:

Bark  
Blocks  
Cement  
Fertiliser

Matting  
Mulch  
Pavers  
Logs

Sand  
Soil  
Stones  
Turf

- To prepare for landscape construction, you should familiarise yourself with the following:
  - Task requirements
    - Refer to documentation to determine required materials, tools and equipment (e.g. plans and specifications and lists/instructions provided by your supervisor)
      - Apply active listening when receiving instructions
      - Clarify any unclear instructions with your supervisor
    - Apply calculations
      - Area ( $\text{m}^2$ ):  $L \times W$
      - Volume ( $\text{m}^3$ ):  $L \times W \times D$

- To prepare for landscape construction, you should familiarise yourself with the following:
  - **Workplace information**
    - Identify underground services for the site (e.g. from site plans, supervisor or contacting Dial Before You Dig)
    - Refer to enterprise guidelines for how to handle and transport materials, equipment and machinery

- To prepare for landscape construction, you should familiarise yourself with the following:
  - **Work area**
    - Identify any WHS hazards and assess risks (e.g. underground services, manual handling injuries)
    - Report hazards to your supervisor within a timely fashion – especially emergency situations

- To prepare for landscape construction, you should familiarise yourself with the following:
  - Available PPE, tools and equipment
    - PPE may include: Gloves, fluorescent safety vest, overalls, respirator, wide brimmed hat, work boots
    - Safety equipment may include: Barricades and signage
    - Tools and equipment may include: Brooms, rakes, shovels, wheelbarrows
    - Ensure they are appropriately selected, prepared and used for the task, following manufacturer recommendations
      - Be sure to check materials, tools and equipment prior to and after use

- Any faulty items should be reported to your supervisor
  - Follow the 'Stop, Tag, Report, Record' (STRR) approach:
    - Stop using the equipment
    - Tag the faulty equipment
    - Report the faulty equipment to your supervisor
    - Record the details of the fault

## Undertaking landscape construction

- Some important tips to remember when undertaking landscape construction:
  - Be sure to undertake landscape construction work in a safe manner
    - Maintain a safe working distance from people, animals and property
    - Work facing traffic
    - Follow enterprise guidelines
  - Work in an environmentally appropriate manner
    - Maintain a clean work site during tasks
      - Temporarily store waste material and debris in a designated area, to be disposed of after completion
    - Follow enterprise guidelines
  - Act positively and professionally around customers and other staff
    - Be mindful of people's varying backgrounds and abilities
    - Notify your supervisor of any problems/difficulties in completing work to required standards or timelines

## Undertaking landscape construction

- During landscape construction work, you will be undertaking manual handling tasks
  - Be sure to follow appropriate procedures to avoid injury
- Ensure the following:
  - Neck is upright
  - Back has natural curve
  - Feet are flat and facing the load
  - Shoulders are level
  - Knees are bent
  - Hands have a good grip around the load

Your aim is to minimise damage to the load, yourself and any vehicles



## Completing landscape construction

- As part of completing landscape construction work, you are required to complete the following practices:
  - Clean up the work area
  - Record and/or report your work outcomes to your supervisor
  - Shut down, maintain, clean and store plant, tools and equipment
    - Follow manufacturer's specifications and supervisor's instructions
    - Report faults that are discovered in logbook and/or site records
  - Dispose of materials that cannot be reused or recycled
    - Ensure that you follow the enterprise guidelines (e.g. Job Safety Analysis [JSA] and Safe Work Method Statement [SWMS] for handling and disposing of waste)
    - Follow Safety Data Sheets (SDS) to ensure environmentally safe practices

- Maintenance of planted areas and landscape features is ongoing.
- This may include:
  - Watering and irrigation
  - Periodic weeding and fertilising
  - Lawn care
  - Annual planting and harvesting
  - Shrub pruning
  - Topiary
  - Maintenance of lighting, fencing, driveways, paths, pools