

## Landscape Enhancing Riverlands Industrial Estate Costings and Inspiration

## 4th April 2016

The Riverlands Industrial Estate, originally conceived as a utilitarian commercial industrial zone on poor saltmarsh land away from residential areas was a wonderful concept.

The area naturally attracted the appropriate land uses of commercial/industrial private companies with a wide range of use and a low aesthetic value component with not much public interface.

This has changed markedly with the expansion and refinement of the Marlborough Wine and Food Industry and their inevitable utilisation of the Riverlands Estate with many positive benefits.

The Estate is now changing gradually with many food and beverage companies now requiring significant public/client interface, these companies are now required to demonstrate quality and authenticity standards to international clients and visitors by way of factory site tours as part of a Provincial visit.

The overall appearance of the Riverlands Industrial Estate is now being brought into question with a sharp and urgent focus on its aesthetic appearance both from within the street frontages and from the State highway alongside and the stark featureless main entrance.

My commissioned role as a commercial landscaper is to encourage and explain just how simple it is to improve this area. Of course the large issues like the main entrance will require some collective thought and investment, however my primary focus is on private commercial street frontages and entranceways.

Many of the frontages are in sporadically mown grass or weeds or worse bare dirt, for a modest one-off investment these eyesores could be transformed into a permanent native landscape that the company, its staff and most importantly its clients can be proud of and happy to do business with.

I have been involved with the Wineworks Bottling Company for several years and in that time have constructed at modest one-off cost , permanent native landscapes that are mitigating the effects and harshness of large scale industrial operations. These landscapes minimise the noise, glare and soften the area creating a pleasant environment for staff and engender a positive first impression for local and international visitors .



## **Ideas and Costings for individual commercial properties**

Following on from my introduction I will explain some basic principles for a economical low cost landscape enhancement for any given commercial site.

Firstly the investment in preparation of the site and its subsequent care for the following 12 months are critical to a maintenance free low cost attractive entrance or street frontage.

The plantings are permanent and trouble free if installed correctly, professionally and with adequate underground irrigation.

To install a maintenance free native landscape, depending a little on site prep will cost between \$26 - \$30 per square meter complete, this includes automatic underground irrigation. Most sites require some elements of visual and height considerations like signage, street traffic safety and light into offices. The plant components should be appropriate to site, local in source and avoiding grasses/tussocks.

In this report I will provide some visual images of attractive street front conversions from wasteful mown grass or weeds to permanent maintenance free visually appealing workplace environs.

The trade off between a carefully prepared landscape correctly installed and a cheaper job is always apparent two years later .

[ see images attached ]

Thankyou and regards Bill Peter. 0274535444