

Crown Lands Act Reserves

Crown land required for a public purpose can be dedicated as a reserve and placed under the care control and management of a government Minister (including the Minister for Environment and Heritage), local government or a community body (the custodian).

If the land is no longer used or required for the purpose for which it was dedicated it can revert to Crown land and be dealt with accordingly. A large number of parkland areas are Crown Lands Act reserves and many municipal buildings are located on reserves.

Crown Lands Act reserves are also used to protect the community's interest in areas with significant cultural or biological values outside the formal national parks system. It is estimated there are about 20 000 parcels of land dedicated as reserves under the [Crown Lands Act 1929](#) throughout the State.

While reserves are placed under the care, control and management of other bodies, public liability can be a significant issue for the custodian and the Crown.

Reserves may be subject to native title rights where those rights have not been extinguished by a past act.

Functions performed by Crown Lands include dedicating and resuming reserves as required.

- Dedication (and resumption) involves a publication in the government gazette. No title is issued although a Crown Record is created on the land information system

No charge is made for the land, however, in some cases the custodian may have purchased land (freehold or Crown leasehold) from a third party and the title may have been cancelled prior to dedication.

Definitions for gazettal and arrangements for publication are undertaken by the Roads and Crown Support Unit within the Land Services Group, DAIS.

- Following dedication a freehold title (Trust Grant) may be issued to the custodian to facilitate registration of third party interests but the land must continue to be used for the purpose of the dedication.
- Reserves are resumed following 'consultation' with the custodian and may be rededicated or otherwise dealt with.

Current Policy Objective

To provide land for public use or benefit while holding a total reversionary interest.

For further information contact any Crown Lands office ([see Contact Details](#))

www.environment.sa.gov.au/mapland/crown_land.html