

**2023 Turf Summer Season Performance Results**

Turf Operations activities include mowing and trimming.

Inventory Type	Target Service Level	Percent of Inventory Meeting Service Level	Current Service Delivery
Mowing Premier parks/ sport fields (eg. Rundle Park)	7 days	87%	8 days
Ditch mowing (eg. high speed freeways)	30 days	90%	33 days
Mowing all other fields (eg. along roadways, neighbourhoods, walkways/greenways, school parks, stormwater management facilities)	10-14 days	78%	18 days
Trimming (weed whacking)	2 times / year	81%	1.7 times / year

**2023 Horticulture Summer Season Performance Results**

Horticultural shrub bed maintenance activities include pruning shrubs, mulching beds and addressing weeds.

Inventory Type*	Target Service Level	Percent of Inventory Meeting Service Level	Current Service Delivery
Premium Level A+ (eg. City Hall)	11 times / year	54%	7 times / year
A Site (eg. City parks)	5 times / year	105%*	5 times / year*
B Site (eg. shrub beds in neighborhoods and along roadways)	2 times / year	105%*	2 times / year*

*\*Administration is currently meeting quantitative service levels (number of beds serviced), but at a reduced quality of service.*

## Turf and Horticulture Qualitative Service Standards

Edmonton's best practice qualitative service standards for horticulture maintenance include removing weeds by the root, removing excess vegetation, pruning shrubs, and mulching (figure 1).

Horticulture maintenance teams have adjusted their practices and reduced shrub bed maintenance quality in efforts to complete routes and provide an equitable number of maintenance cycles across the city. Instead of removing weeds at the root, teams have adapted to weed whacking taller weeds and leaving the fallen vegetation behind. Additionally, the efforts dedicated to mulching and pruning have been significantly reduced (figure 2).

Turf maintenance standards involve leaving grass clippings when mowing. Due to the reduced frequency of mow cycles, the clippings being left are longer and more visible (figure 3) than those left when mowing shorter grass.



**Figure 1:** Horticulture bed maintained with best practice qualitative service standards



***Figure 2:*** Horticulture bed maintained with reduced weed removal quality



***Figure 3:*** Turf field that is mowed at the current 10-14 day targeted service level, leaving clumps of long grass behind