

Jurisdictional Scan

Administration requested information about turf and horticulture maintenance service levels from Canadian municipalities that are close to Edmonton in proximity and climate conditions. Responses are summarized below.

Table 1: Turf Mowing Service Levels

Turf Mowing Service									
Edmonton, AB		Calgary, AB		Saskatoon, SK		Sherwood Park, AB		St. Albert, AB	
4072 Ha		4051 Ha		1125 Ha		406 Ha		426 Ha (2014 inventory)	
Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level
- Premier Parks - Premier sportsfields	7-day cycles	- Playfields	7-day cycles	- Irrigated parks	7-day cycles	- Class A sport fields	3 times per week	- Civil building sites - River valley	7-day cycles
- Turf along roadways - Neighbourhood walkways - Other Parks	14-day cycles	- Public parks	14-day cycles	- Non-irrigated parks	14-day cycles	- Other urban area sites	7-day cycles	- Other green space - Excluding buffers, boulevards	10-day cycles
- Ditches - High speed freeways - Undeveloped parklands	30-day cycles	- Along major roadways	4 times per season / 35-day cycles	- Berms - Roadway ditches - Centre medians - Other right-of-ways	3 to 5 times per season / 25-41 day cycles	- High speed freeways - Undeveloped parklands	30-day cycles		

Table 2: Turf Trimming Service Levels

Turf Trimming Service									
Edmonton, AB		Calgary, AB		Saskatoon, SK		Sherwood Park, AB		St. Albert, AB	
Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level
- Parkland - Roadways - Sportsfields	2 times per season / 71-day cycles	- Playfields	7-day cycles	- Irrigated parks	7-day cycles	- Class A sport fields	7-day cycles	- River valley - Lacombe Lake - Cemetery	7-day cycles
		- Public parks	14-day cycles	- Non-irrigated parks	14-day cycles				
		- Along major roadways	4 times per season / 35-day cycles	- Berms - Roadway ditches - Centre medians - Other right-of-ways	3 to 5 times per season / 25-41 day cycles	- Other urban area sites	14-day cycles	- All other inventories	3 times per season / 42-day cycles

Table 3: Horticulture Shrub Beds Service Levels

Horticulture Shrub Beds Maintenance									
Edmonton, AB		Calgary, AB		Saskatoon, SK		Sherwood Park, AB		St. Albert, AB	
2,118,520 m2		784,811 m2		360,618 m2		93,516 m2		113,420 m2	
Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level	Classification Description	Service Level
- Premier sites (downtown)	11 times per season / 17-day cycles	- Premier sites (downtown)	7-day cycles	- Park entrances - Streetscapes - Sign beds - Facilities - Riverbank areas	8 times per season / 15-day cycles	- Priority sites	8 times per season / 15-day cycles	- Servus Place - All downtown shrub beds - Highly visited beds	7-day cycles
- City level parks - Business improvement areas	5 times per season / 37-day cycles	- All other inventories	As needed & in the process of defining more formal service levels	- Park frontages - Irrigated park areas - Boulevards - Centre medians	4 times per season / 31-day cycles	- Neighbourhood - Arterial	4 times per season / 31-day cycles	- Recreation amenities - RCMP - Firehalls	14-day cycles
- Neighbourhood roadways - Stormwater management facilities	2 times per season / 92-day cycles			- Bluffs - Shelterbelts - Buffers - Berms - Right-of-ways	2 times per season / 62-day cycles			- Neighbourhood entrances - Cul-de-sac islands - Neighborhood parks	35-day cycles

Municipal Benchmarking

Administration compared Edmonton’s 2022 cost per hectare for Turf and Horticulture maintenance to other Western Canadian municipalities using data from Yardstick, a private benchmarking tool that allows organizations to compare various performance data. This data is categorized for operations and maintenance expenditures on:

- Verges turf maintenance: all types of mown and maintained grass, including parks and school fields
- Grass sports field maintenance: grass or turf on outdoor sports fields
- Shrub bed maintenance: all planted beds in parks, public green spaces and streets

Maintenance Expenditure per Area

