

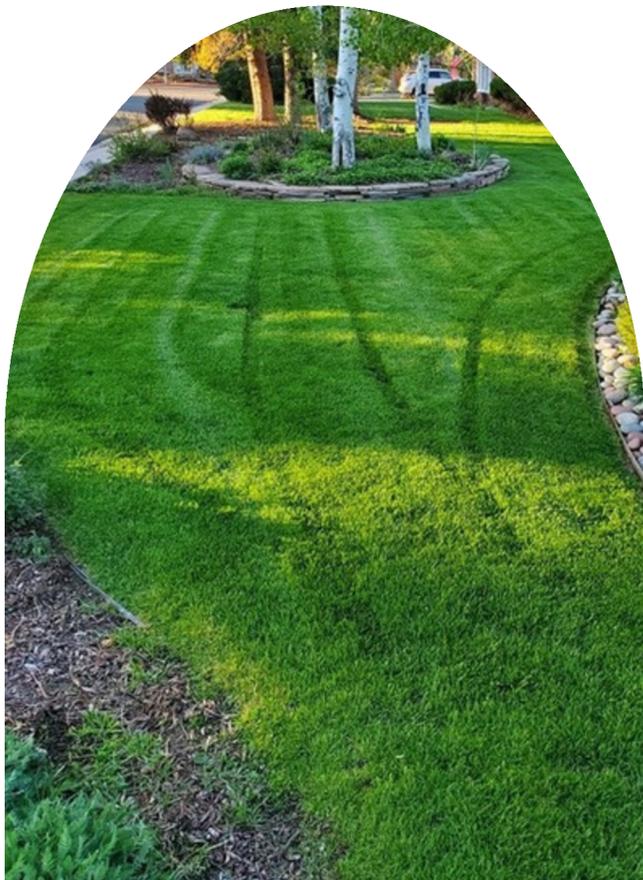
Commercial Lawn Care Budget Planning Checklist

A simple guide for property managers and HOA boards

Step 1: Review Your Property Size & Layout

Before estimating costs, start with a quick overview of the property.

- Total property acreage or landscaped square footage
- Turf areas vs landscaped beds
- Number of trees and shrubs
- Irrigation system present
- High-traffic areas (entrances, signage, walkways)



Step 2: Plan Your Core Lawn Maintenance

Routine services usually make up the majority of a commercial landscape budget.

- Weekly or bi-weekly mowing during growing season
- Edging along sidewalks and parking lots
- Seasonal cleanup (spring and fall)
- Turf fertilization schedule
- Monitoring lawn health throughout the season

Step 3: Schedule Seasonal Treatments

Many lawn services follow predictable seasonal cycles. Planning these services ahead of time helps prevent unexpected costs later.

- Spring aeration
- Fall aeration
- Pre-emergent weed control (beginning April/May)
- Post-emergent weed treatments every 4–6 weeks
- Tree and shrub fertilization
- Pest and disease monitoring

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Step 4: Evaluate Tree & Landscape Health

Trees and shrubs play a major role in curb appeal.

- Tree fertilization needs
- Insect protection for trees
- Disease prevention treatments
- Shrub pruning and shaping
- Replacement planning for aging trees

Step 6: Add a Contingency Budget

Weather and unexpected issues happen so a small buffer can prevent budget surprises later. Set aside 5–10% of your landscaping budget for:

- Storm damage
- Broken tree limbs
- Emergency weed outbreaks
- Irrigation repairs

Step 5: Plan for Repairs & Irrigation Maintenance

Small issues can become expensive if ignored.

- Irrigation startup and shutdown
- Irrigation system inspections
- Minor sprinkler repairs
- Soil erosion or drainage issues
- Landscape bed maintenance

Step 7: Consider a Year-Round Landscape Plan

Many property managers choose a full-service plan that spreads costs throughout the year. Benefits include:

- Predictable monthly costs
- Services performed at the correct time
- Healthier lawns and trees
- Fewer emergency repairs

Final Step: Request a Professional Landscape Review

A professional assessment can help identify issues early and build a plan that fits your property. **Schedule a consultation** with J. Rick Lawn & Tree to review your property and create a landscape maintenance plan tailored to your needs.