



WMU Landscape Services-Level of Service
APPA Grounds Standards

Turf Care, Fertilizer, Irrigation, Litter Control, Pruning, Disease and Insect Control, Surfaces, Repairs, and Inspections service levels on our campuses should adhere to an APPA levels between level 2 and level 3. Floral Plantings service level on our campuses are kept at level 2, level 3 and level 4 depending on the location of the plantings. Snow Removal is kept up at APPA level 1.

Why APPA? The Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers' Grounds Inventory and Maintenance Levels uses national data to benchmark important issues that should be considered and provides good general guidance. Planning for the performance of grounds maintenance functions should be based on both a land-use inventory of the scope and nature of the grounds to be cared for and a determination of the standards of care.

APPA Grounds Standards					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
APPA Acres per person	8	10.4	14	22.4	42.6
WMU Acres per person			21		
Turf Care					
Grass Height	As needed				
Mow	Every 5 working days	Every 5 working days	Every 10 working days	Based on species, may not be mowed	Based on species, may not be mowed
Aeration	4 times a year	2 times per year	Turf quality indicates	None	None
Reseeding	As needed	Bare spots	Major bare spots appear	None	None
Sodding	As needed	Bare spots	Major bare spots appear	None	None
Weed control	To 1% surface	To 5% surface	To 15% surface	Limited to legal requirements	Only if legal requirements demand
Fertilizer					

Level of care	Species optimum requirements	Healthy and growing	Only when turf vigor seems low	Not fertilized	Not fertilized
Rates	Ensure supply of nutrients	Lowest recommended	1/2 recommended	Not fertilized	Not fertilized
Times	Ensure supply of nutrients	Ensure even supply	Yearly	Not fertilized	Not fertilized
Seasonal charts	Modify according to seasons	Over entire year	Low level application	Not fertilized	Not fertilized
Irrigation					
Controlled	Automated sprinkler	Automated sprinkler	Demand & portable	No irrigation	No irrigation
Staffing	Adequate	Adequate	Minimal	No irrigation	No irrigation
Frequency	As plant material demands	As plant material demands	2 - 3 times weekly	No irrigation	No irrigation
Litter control					
Frequency	Daily/ 7 days a week	Daily/ 5 days a week	2 - 3 times a week	Once per week	On demand/ complaint
Receptacles	Plentiful	Traffic dependent	Weather dependent	Sparse	Sparse
Pruning					
Frequency	As species requires	Once per season	Once every 2 or 3 years	No regular trimming	Safety reasons only
Design Concepts	As species requires	Some sculpting	Health or reasonable appearance	Safety or damage	Safety reasons only
Grow characteristics	As species requires	As species requires	Health or reasonable appearance	Safety or damage	Safety reasons only

Disease and Insect Control					
Objective	Avoid public awareness of problem	Not bothersome to public	When an issue with public	When public comfort is an issue	When public comfort is an issue
Corrective Schedule	Immediately	When damage is noticeable	When health or survival of plant is threatened or to address epidemics	Only to address epidemic or public safety	Only to address epidemic or public safety
Snow removal					
Frequency	Same day	Cleared by noon the next day	Based on local law requirements	Based on local law requirements	Based on local law requirements
Accumulation	0.5 inch of accumulation		Cleared following day	Cleared following day	Cleared following day
Surface cover	Clean by noon next day	Cleared by noon the next day	May not be cleared at all	May not be cleared at all	May not be cleared at all
Gravel	To reduce danger of injury	To reduce ice accumulation	No	No	No
Snow - melt	To reduce danger of injury	To reduce ice accumulation	No	No	No
Surfaces					
Frequency of sweep, clean, wash	Based on looks & safety	When appearances noticeably deteriorated	Complaint bases as budget allows	When safety is a concern and budgets available	When safety is a consideration
Repairs					
	Performed immediately to elements of design	Whenever safety, function, or appearance is in question	When safety of function is in question	When safety or function is in question	When safety or function is in question
Inspections					
	Daily	Regular working days	Once per week	Once per month	Once per month

Floral Plantings					
	Seasonal blooms schedule, min once/week care cycle	No more than 2 rotations of bloom per year	Only perennials or flowering trees/shrubs	May have wildflowers	none

In general, there are no costs associated with level of service landscape maintenance. However, events, projects and extra activity that impacts the general use of the area will be considered for billing, even if service is not requested. Costs associated with facility issues resulting from vandalism or misuse may be the responsibility of the identified individual or department. Costs associated with services that exceed the scope of routine, such as event request, or a project or renovation, may be paid for by the requesting department. A meeting between a Landscape Services representative and requestor of service will occur to clarify potential costs and scope of the request.

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