



What a fixed fee grounds maintenance quote should include

A fixed fee is only as good as the scope behind it. Priced against a vague scope it quietly becomes the contractor deciding what is included, and the dispute arrives around month five. Use this page to check any quote for an ongoing grounds program, whatever the fee. If a line is missing, ask for it in writing before you sign.

The scope

- ☐ **A site schedule** the scope points to: the lawns, beds, hedges, trees, paths, car parks and access facts
- ☐ **Mowing** with the height range and whether clippings are caught or left
- ☐ **Edging and line trimming** along paths, kerbs, fences and beds
- ☐ **Hedge and shrub trimming**, the number of cuts a year and the height kept to
- ☐ **Garden bed care and weed control**, with the method
- ☐ **Pruning** up to a stated height in metres
- ☐ **Litter, blowing down** of paths and car parks each visit
- ☐ **Green waste removal** with the word included beside it
- ☐ **Routine products** (fertiliser, weed control) stated as included or not

The frequency

- ☐ **By season:** the growing season program and the winter program, each stated
- ☐ **Hedge cuts** timed to the growth flushes
- ☐ **Irrigation** checked on the visit, repairs excluded

The exclusions and the extras

- ☐ **Exclusions named:** tree work above the stated height, irrigation repairs, storm damage beyond a defined scale, new planting and landscaping, dumped waste
- ☐ **An hourly rate for genuine extras**, stated now rather than negotiated later
- ☐ **A written quote, approved by the manager**, before any extra starts

The paperwork

- ☐ **Public liability** at the level your rules require, with a current certificate of currency
- ☐ **ABN and GST status**, one GST basis across the quotes you compare
- ☐ **Safe work method statements** on request
- ☐ **Who attends site** and whether it is the same operator every visit

The reporting and the terms

- ☐ **What was done each visit** and anything flagged, in writing
- ☐ **Seasonal condition reports** as evidence the program is running
- ☐ **Twelve month term**, an exit clause on around 30 days notice, an annual price review
- ☐ **One fixed monthly fee**, the same in July as in January

Why fixed fees exist. The contractor averages the heavy spring and summer months against the light winter ones, and the committee or owner gets one predictable number for the year. A flat weekly schedule priced per visit overpays through winter, and a purely hourly arrangement makes summer unpredictable. Over a full year for the same scope the totals usually land close. What you buy with a fixed fee is certainty, not extra margin.

From the Kanga Gardening guides Fixed fee vs hourly garden maintenance and What a grounds maintenance contract should say, kangagardening.com.au/insights. Practical guidance, not legal advice.

Every Kanga quote carries all of the above

A free site walkthrough, then one written quote with the scope line by line, the frequency by season, the exclusions stated, green waste included and no call out charges. Body corporate, commercial, industrial and acreage sites across south east Melbourne and the Mornington Peninsula. hello@kangagardening.com.au or 0406 937 593.

- \$20M public and products liability
- Police checked
- The same operator every visit
- Established 2020
- Certificate of currency on request