

# GSL



GROWING SEASONS LANDSCAPING



## The Complete Solution for Managing Your Property Asset

SAVE MONEY AND TIME WITH STRATEGIC  
LANDSCAPE AND SNOW REMOVAL PLANNING

## Dear Property Owner/Manager,

Imagine if your property's landscaping and snow management issues were fully under control – saving you money, enhancing curb appeal, increasing tenant and employee satisfaction, and even improving safety. With our guide, you'll gain the insights needed to make this vision a reality.

Learn how maintaining a well-groomed lawn and landscape saves you money, boosts curb appeal, enhances tenant satisfaction, and even improves safety.

### Read this Guide IF you are tired of:

- A lawn overtaken by weeds
- Annoying & Time-Consuming Calls with Incompetent Vendors
- Flowers that never bloom as they should
- Liability Risks & Insurance Nightmares Keeping You Up At Night
- Expensive snow-related issues caused by improper clearing
- Pests damaging your carefully planned landscape
- Flooding concerns that risk property damage
- A property that fails to make you and your tenants proud

This guide is designed specifically for property managers like you, who are ready to take control of their property's appearance, budget, and tenant/employee satisfaction. Here's what you'll gain by reading:

- **The Right Timing for Landscape and Snow Services:** Learn how proper scheduling can lead to cost savings, healthier landscapes, and reduced tenant complaints.
- **Avoiding Costly Mistakes:** Understand common pitfalls in landscape and snow management and how to avoid them for a more efficient and cost-effective approach.
- **Knowing What Sets Great Companies Apart:** Discover the qualities of truly exceptional landscaping partners and how they add value to your property.

Don't let another season pass by with unsightly landscapes or snow issues that put your property and tenants at risk. With this guide, you'll be equipped to make informed decisions that keep your property looking its best year-round.

Get started today – read this guide to take the first step toward a more beautiful, safer, and cost-effective landscape.

Best regards,




Justin O'Connor , *Owner*





YOUR SEASONAL CALENDAR FOR

# Commercial Landscape Success

Month	Season	Focus	Key Services	Mistakes to Avoid
Dec-Feb	<b>Winter</b> 	Secure Your Spot for Landscape Services, Snow Plan & Liability Awareness	Snow Removal, Liability Checks, Spring Service Sign-up	Inadequate Snow Services, Ignoring Liability Risks
Mar - May	<b>Spring</b> 	Spring Cleanup, Weed Control & Property Enhancements (Dog parks, Courtyards)	Spring Cleanup, Bed Preparation, Pre-emergent Weed Control	Skipping Weed Control, Incorrect Pruning Timing
Jun - Sep	<b>Summer</b> 	Monitor & Maintain: Pruning, Pest Control, Proactive Inspections	Pruning, Pest Management, Pre-emergent Weed Control	Ignoring Pest Issues, Lack of Proactive Maintenance
Sept - Nov	<b>Fall</b> 	Invest in Future: Fall Cleanup, Lawn Seeding, Snow Planning	Fall Cleanup, Lawn Repair, Seasonal Planting, Leaf Removal	Delayed Snow Contracts, Incomplete Leaf Removal

This seasonal calendar is designed to guide you through the essential “Do’s and Don’ts” of commercial landscape maintenance. It will walk you through the year, helping you keep your property pristine while avoiding costly mistakes. Each season, we break down key maintenance tasks, optimal timing, and expert tips to protect your investment and extend the lifespan of your landscaping features.

## **SPRING (MARCH - MAY):**

### **Set the Stage for Success and Property Enhancements**

Spring isn't just about maintenance; it's also a perfect time to explore new enhancements to elevate your property. Now is the time to invest in your commercial property! In today's competitive market, how can you stand out? Consider enhancements like a dog park, pavilion, or other unique features to increase your revenue and attract more clients. With the right investments, you can create spaces that increase value, attract tenants, and make your property a welcoming environment.

### **Popular Enhancements for increased property value:**

- **Out with the Old:** Replace outdated features with fresh, modern landscaping for maximum appeal.
- **Fix Sitting Water:** Address drainage issues now to prevent costly water damage in the future.
- **Dog Parks:** Add a pet-friendly area to enhance tenant and visitor satisfaction.
- **Courtyard Upgrades:** Create attractive, functional outdoor spaces with features like seating, pathways, and landscaping.
- **Outdoor Eating Areas:** Give tenants and visitors more reason to enjoy your property with inviting outdoor dining spaces.

In addition to property enhancements, core spring maintenance includes thorough cleanups, bed preparation, and essential weed control for a thriving landscape.

### **Key Services:**

- Spring Cleanup - removing winter debris and cutting back necessary plants
- Edging and Bed Preparation
- Pre-emergent Weed Control
- Fresh Mulch



## Common Mistakes to Avoid:

- **Skipping Pre-Emergent Weed Control:** Missing this could mean battling weeds throughout the year.
- **Improper Pruning:** Ensure blooming plants are pruned at the right time for maximum impact.



## Don't Let Bad Pruning Practices Destroy Your Landscape

Pruning plants at the wrong time—or cutting them back too aggressively—can do more than hinder blooming; it can kill your plants entirely.

### **The Consequences?**

- **Costly Replacements:** Replacing damaged plants can run into thousands of dollars.
- **Reduced Curb Appeal:** A poorly maintained landscape reflects badly on your property, impacting tenant satisfaction and visitor impressions.

**Consider this Example:** A commercial property manager initially hired us to install a new landscape. After completion, they chose a lower-cost provider for ongoing maintenance. Unfortunately, the new company pruned at the wrong time and cut plants back too low, killing them.

**The Result?** An unsightly landscape and an unexpected \$10,000 expense to replace the damaged plants.

# SUMMER (JUNE - SEPT):

## Monitor and Maintain

Summer demands vigilance. This is prime time for pest control, plant health monitoring, and upkeep. Your landscaping partner should be proactive, with regular CARE calls to prevent small issues from turning into costly repairs.

### Key Services:

- Pruning
- Annual Planting
- Reapplying Pre-emergent Weed Control
- Pest Evaluation and Control

### Common Mistakes to Avoid:

- **Ignoring Pests Early:** Pests change with the season; having a professional monitor can prevent extensive lawn or plant damage.
- **Reactive Maintenance:** Avoid costly plant replacements by catching problems early with proactive CARE calls from your landscaper.



## Avoid a \$10,000 Mistake: Timely Weed & Pest Control Matters

Skipping or delaying proper weed and pest control can devastate your lawn, leading to replacement costs of \$10,000 or more for the average commercial property. Beyond the financial hit, a damaged lawn can severely detract from your property's curb appeal, affecting tenant satisfaction and visitor impressions.

**Consider this example:** A property manager opted out of a cost-effective grub control service, assuming it wasn't necessary. Unfortunately, it was a bad year for grubs, and they lost half their lawn. The initial savings were wiped out by the far higher expense of replacing the lawn—an avoidable mistake that cost time, money, and reputation.





## FALL (SEPT - NOV): Invest in the Future

Fall is your opportunity to prepare for winter while investing in next season's success. It's the best time for planting, lawn seeding, and cleaning up before the snow arrives.

### Key Services:

- Fall Cleanups
- Lawn Seeding and Repair
- Pruning for Winter Readiness

### Common Mistakes to Avoid:

- **Delayed Snow Contracts:** The best snow companies fill up early—reserve your spot to ensure timely service.
- **Skipping Leaf Removal:** Proper leaf cleanup prevents clogged drains and flooding, saving you on potential insurance claims, landscape repairs and avoiding turf damage.



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*“I work with dozens of different contractors on a daily basis. GSL is a top-notch company. Very professional, responsive, and hard working.*

- Shane F.

## WINTER (DEC - FEB):

### Stay Safe and Prepared for Next Season

Winter is the time to finalize your plans for the upcoming landscape season. Now is the time to sign up to guarantee your spot for landscape services! With a secured spot, you'll be at the top of the list come springtime, ready to jumpstart the year with a proactive approach.

In addition to a solid snow plan, winter preparation includes having a reliable snow contractor to ensure your property is safe, accessible, and free from liability issues. From effective communication during snow events to ensuring proper insurance coverage, a professional team keeps your property protected through the harshest months.

### Key Considerations:

- **Reliable Snow Services:** Select a contractor with sufficient resources, like multiple trucks and snow insurance, to keep operations smooth and dependable.
- **Liability Awareness:** Remember, snow-covered sidewalks can pose risks—even when your property is closed. Stay protected with consistent clearing.
- **Clear Communication:** Make sure anyone managing your property during winter knows the emergency contacts for reliable, fast response.

### Mistakes to Avoid:

- **Going with the Cheapest Option:** An unreliable provider can lead to lost revenue, property inaccessibility, unsafe conditions, staying up all night communicating with incompetent people, and unexpected costs.





## Pittsburgh's Average Annual Snowfall is 44.1 Inches – Are You Prepared?

Each winter, Pittsburgh sees over 30 snow events requiring salting or plowing. Without a reliable provider in place, your property could face serious consequences:

- **Lost Revenue:** Employees, tenants, and visitors may be unable to access your property safely, leaving businesses closed and income halted.
- **Increased Liability:** If your property isn't properly cleared, you risk costly slip-and-fall lawsuits that can far exceed the price of professional snow management.

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*“I use Growing Seasons Landscaping for landscaping and snow removal at multiple HOA properties that I manage. They are a top-notch professional company. Their snow removal response is quick, and I never have any complaints from residents, which makes my job easy! Their landscaping crews are very attentive to detail. They are among the best in the region. I highly recommend them!”*

- Nathan C.

# Making the Right Choice

## FOR YOUR PROPERTY

Managing your property's landscape and snow removal needs can feel overwhelming. Here's a look at the three main options for keeping your commercial property in top shape—and what to consider with each:

### 1. MANAGING IT YOURSELF

If you choose to handle landscape and snow maintenance on your own, you'll need to be prepared with the right tools, extensive time investment, and a detailed seasonal plan. Be ready to tackle seasonal challenges, including weed control, pest management, snow removal, stay up to date on local regulations and safety protocols.

### 2. HIRING A LOW COST COMPANY

Working with a solo landscaper or low cost solution may offer cost savings, but you may encounter limitations in scheduling, equipment, and scalability. They might struggle to meet the demands of a large property or handle complex issues promptly, potentially leading to inconsistent quality or slower response times during busy seasons. You might end up saving \$2,000 a year with a low cost solution but it could end up costing you days of lost revenue and would eat up any savings you had from the lower cost service.

### 3. HIRING A PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPING COMPANY

For consistent quality, reliability, and expertise, hiring a professional landscaping team is often the best option. When choosing a professional partner, look for:

- **Experience with Commercial Properties:** Ensure they have a track record with properties like yours, so they understand your unique needs.
- **Proactive Maintenance Plans:** A reputable company will provide seasonal plans tailored to enhance curb appeal, safety, and property value year-round.
- **Comprehensive Service Options:** From routine lawn care and pruning to snow removal and emergency response, a full-service team handles it all.
- **Transparent Pricing and Reliable Communication:** Professional companies prioritize clear communication, detailed reporting, and transparent costs, helping you stay informed and confident in your investment.

## READY TO MAKE THE BEST CHOICE FOR YOUR PROPERTY?

Managing your commercial property doesn't have to be overwhelming. If Option #3—partnering with a professional landscaping company—makes the most sense for you. Growing Seasons Landscaping is here to help.

With over 30 years of experience in the Pittsburgh area, we understand the unique challenges of maintaining commercial properties in our area. At GSL, we're committed to balancing cost efficiency with risk management while helping you invest in long-term growth and curb appeal.

**Schedule your FREE site assessment today** with one of our Solution Specialists. We'll help you identify risks, uncover opportunities, and create a tailored plan that fits your needs. If it's the right fit, our team will work with you to implement expert lawn care, landscape maintenance, and snow removal solutions to transform your property into one that's safe, attractive, and built to last.

**Let GSL take the hard work off your plate so you can focus on what matters most.**



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