



THE ORCHARDS

# Landscaping Requirements 2025

The Orchards landscaping requirements are designed to create a cohesive, welcoming streetscape while supporting sustainable, low-maintenance options that still allow homeowners to express their personal style. The primary goal is simple: ensure every front yard includes meaningful greenery.

As part of this vision, The Orchards at Ellerslie features a community-wide tree-planting program inspired by the orchard theme. Each Stage has specific front-yard tree requirements, and every home must include one flowering tree—selected from the approved list for that area.

Responsibility for completing the landscaping falls to either the builder or the homeowner, depending on what is outlined in the purchase agreement. For corner lots, the “front yard” includes the full flanking side yard up to the sidewalk, curb, or boulevard, extending to the rear corner of the home unless screened by fencing.

Homeowners are encouraged to personalize their yards beyond the minimum standards. Additional shrubs, perennials, and ornamental grasses may be incorporated to enhance curb appeal and reinforce the community’s unique identity.

All landscaping must be completed within one year of occupancy unless otherwise stated in the purchase agreement. When the homeowner is responsible, the builder must collect a \$1,500 landscaping deposit, which will be refunded once the home, landscaping, and any required fencing or deck have been confirmed as complete and compliant with the guidelines.

Requirement	Details	Completed
<b>Sod</b>	Full <b>sod</b> installation in the front yard, must be <b>healthy and weed-free</b> at the time of inspection.	
<b>Tree</b>	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Flowering Fruit Tree:</b> Minimum 2” (50 mm) caliper, selected from the approved species for each area as outlined in the Orchards Tree Program.</li> </ul>	
<b>Landscaping Features &amp; Planting Beds</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Shrub bed:</b> At least 6 flowering shrubs, each a minimum of 18” in height or spread.</li> </ul> <p>All planting beds must have clearly visible edging and be filled with <b>black, brown, or grey</b> rock/wood mulch.</p>	
<b>Site Condition</b>	The yard must be tidy and well-maintained. All plant material—trees, shrubs, perennials, and sod—must be healthy and visibly thriving to pass the inspection.	
<b>Home Completion</b>	Home and deck (if applicable) fully completed and compliant with the current architectural guidelines.	
<b>Address Plaque</b>	A permanent address plaque must be installed and clearly visible from the street.	



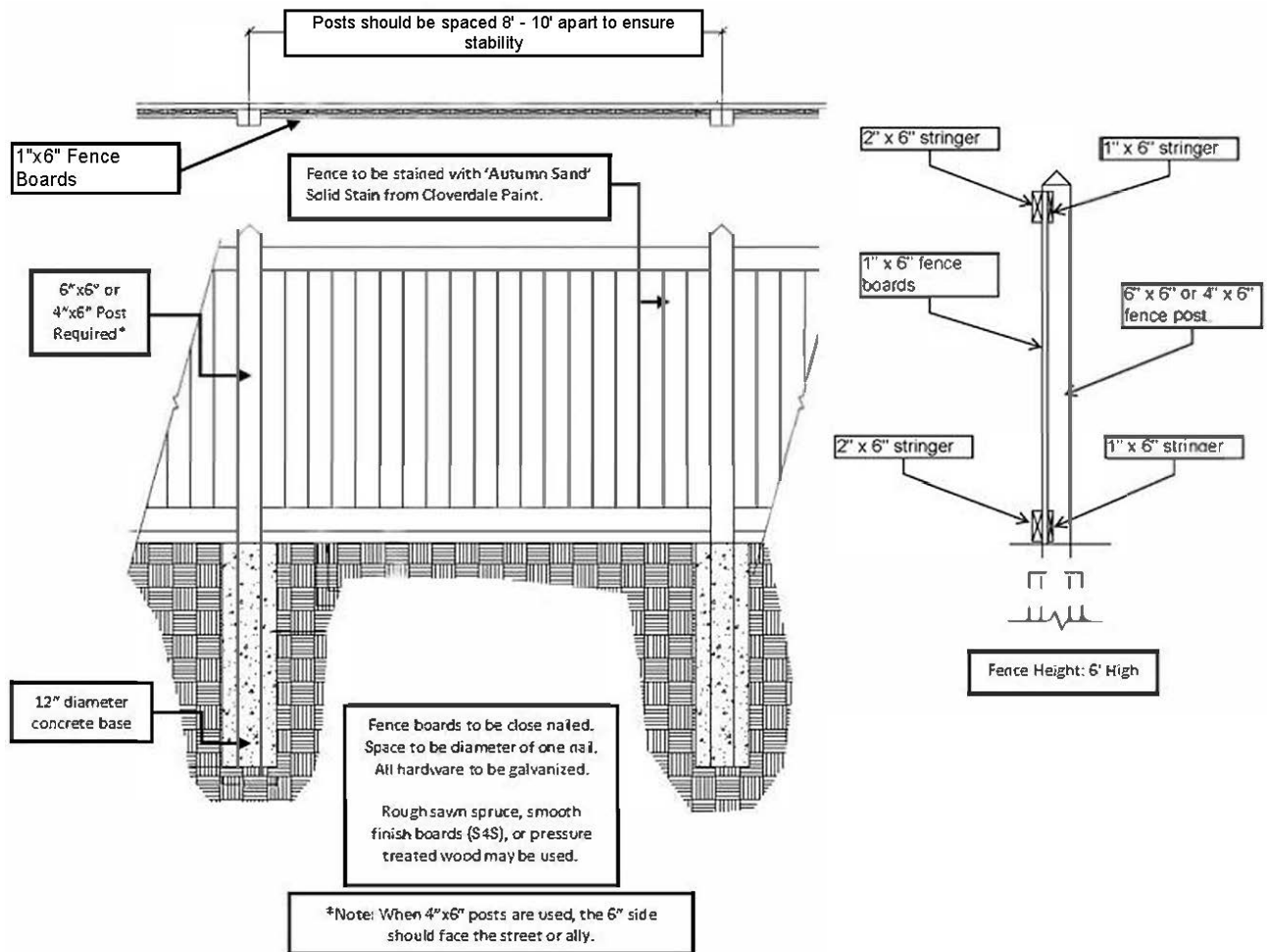
**Fence Inspection**

Fencing must be consistent in style and colour with the **Orchards Community Fence** detail.

If any portion of fencing has been started, it will be inspected. Any deficiencies must be corrected before final approval and deposit release.

All final inspections will follow this manual and the current architectural guidelines. Homeowners who do not meet the landscaping, fencing, and deck requirements may fail their inspection and forfeit their landscaping deposit.

**ORCHARDS FENCING REQUIREMENTS**



Category	Requirements
<b>Colour</b>	All fences must be stained with Cloverdale <b>"Autumn Sand EX201"</b>
<b>Material</b>	Developer fences are built with rough spruce. Recommended for homeowners: <b>All Weather Wood</b> (can be painted immediately). Acceptable alternatives: smooth-cut boards or pressure-treated wood.
<b>Vinyl Fencing Options</b>	The following 6' solid privacy vinyl products are permitted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catalyst Fence Solutions 6' Solid Privacy Fence in "Clay" or "Mesquite"</li> </ul>
<b>Developer-Installed Rear Fencing</b>	The developer will install coated chain link fencing at the rear property line for lots backing onto parks, trails, and storm ponds.  Fencing will be placed 6" inside the rear property line, per City of Edmonton requirements.
<b>Zero Lot Line Fences</b>	Must be installed within the property lines.
<b>School Sites</b>	Fences directly adjacent to school sites must be 1.8m (6') high, per City of Edmonton requirements.

# Final Inspection Procedures

## OPTION 1: BUILDER-COMPLETED LANDSCAPING

1. The builder is responsible for completing the landscaping and is solely responsible for ensuring that they are meeting the community requirements outlined in this booklet.
2. The Brookfield Architectural Controls Department performs architectural inspection during their regular presence in the community. Any deficiencies found will be communicated to the builder following the inspection.
3. Subsequent inspections will occur every two months during the inspection season.
4. At the end of each season, Brookfield reviews and communicates any outstanding deficiencies. Builders are expected to ensure all outstanding deficiencies are corrected in the following season.

## OPTION 2: HOMEOWNER-COMPLETED LANDSCAPING

1. The homeowner provides a landscaping deposit to the builder at the time of purchase.
2. The homeowner completes the landscaping and fencing (if desired) and obtains final grading approval.
3. Once complete, the homeowner submits a final inspection request to the builder. The request must include:
  - Final grade approval & final grading certificate
  - Final inspection request form
  - Photos of the entire home (front and back), showing the complete landscape and any fencing.
4. The AC department inspects the home and landscaping; results are provided to the builder, who then notifies the homeowner.
5. If deficiencies are identified, re-inspection will only occur once the homeowner submits a re-inspection request. The landscaping deposit will not be released until full compliance with approved building plans and community guidelines is confirmed.

# Alternative Landscaping Options

## HARD SURFACE LANDSCAPING (ROCKSCAPE)

Hard surface landscaping may be considered on an individual basis if it still meets the core objective of these guidelines: achieving greenery in all front yards. It is strongly recommended that hard surface landscape plans be reviewed by Brookfield Residential prior to installation. Plans must be submitted through the builder.

To be approved, a hard surface landscape must:

- The yard must visually contain more greenery than rock or mulch.
- A mix of rock sizes and materials
- Variation in grading (small rises/contours)
- No colored shale or white landscape rock, which will not be approved

## ARTIFICIAL TURF

Artificial synthetic turf may be used in place of sod if it meets the following minimum requirements:

Requirements	Details
<b>Colour</b>	Green only; no other colours accepted.
<b>Weight</b>	Minimum 95 oz/sq yd (ex. ezLAWN Pro, exLawn Elite, ezLAWN Platinum)
<b>Pile Height</b>	Minimum 41mm
<b>Base Preparation</b>	Minimum 4" depth of 20mm road crush, compacted to 90% Proctor density.
<b>Leveling Layer</b>	Sand or crushed limestone fines.
<b>Surface Infill</b>	Silica sand and/or rubber infill.
<b>Warranty</b>	Must be pet-friendly product with a minimum 10-year warranty.
<b>Boarder Requirements</b>	A distinct board must separate artificial turf from all adjacent natural sod. Acceptable boards include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rock/cobble edging</li><li>• Additional planting beds</li></ul>
<b>Putting Greens (Back Yards Only)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum 83 oz/sq yd (ex. ezGOLF Pro)</li><li>• Minimum 13mm blade height</li></ul>

### *How to Properly Separate Natural Sod from Artificial Turf*



*Incorrect – There should be a distinct boarder installed between the artificial turf and the neighboring natural sod.*



*Correct – A distinct boarder containing additional shrubs has been installed between the artificial turf and neighboring sod.*

Homeowners must provide a quote/invoice, to verify the specifications have been met, as a visual inspection may not suffice. Quotes/invoices may be submitted to your builder upon requesting your final inspection.

## The Orchards Tree Program

To reinforce the community's orchard-inspired identity, The Orchards at Ellerslie includes a dedicated tree planting program. Each Stage has an assigned flowering tree species, creating a cohesive and memorable streetscape. Every home is required to plant one approved flowering tree in the front yard, installed at a minimum 2" caliper.

Brookfield Residential will provide each new homeowner with a blossoming fruit tree supplied by Classic Landscapes. The species assigned to each lot aligns with the master tree plan for the community. Classic Landscapes will offer a one-year warranty from the date of pick-up, including one replacement tree within that period.

### **Classic Landscapes**

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Sherwood Park, AB T8B 1E4

780 410 9911

[treefarm@classiclandscapes.com](mailto:treefarm@classiclandscapes.com)

Brookfield places annual orders with Classic Landscapes to ensure adequate supply. When landscaping is underway, homeowners—or their landscapers—may pick up their assigned tree directly from Classic Landscapes by presenting a copy of the home's sales agreement. Classic will document the pick-up and verify that the correct tree species for the Stage has been provided. Builders' landscapers must supply the Lot/Block/Stage or Plan number when picking up trees for multiple homes.

## UPDATED TREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Existing Plum, Existing Hawthorn, Existing Cherry, Existing Crabapple**  
 Original tree selections for these Stages—**Plum, Hawthorn, Cherry, and Crabapple**—will continue to be required. Homes within these areas must install the designated flowering tree associated with their Stage.
- Future Lilac, Future Hawthorn, Future Mosaic Plum**  
 Original tree selections for these Stages—**Lilac, Plum, and Hawthorn**—will continue to be required. Homes within these areas must install the designated flowering tree associated with their Stage.
- Future Mosaic & Future Native Primary**  
 Homeowners within these Stages may choose any flowering fruit tree from the approved species listed below. All selected trees must meet the minimum 2" caliper requirement and align with the community's orchard-inspired design intent.

Makamik Crabapple	Amur Cherry	Cardinal Royal Mountain Ash
Spring Snow Crabapple	Schubert Chokecherry	Showy Mountain Ash
Thunderchild Crabapple	Goldspur Amur Cherry	European Mountain Ash
Columinar Siberian Crabapple	Snowbird Hawthorn	American Mountain Ash
Muckle Plum	Taba Hawthorn	True North Linen
Princess Kay Plum	Sutherland Caragana	Ivory Silk Japanese Lilac

The Orchards Tree Plan is current as of December 2025 and will be updated if design changes occur. Classic Landscapes will be notified of any revisions to ensure accurate distribution.

