

What You Need to Know about Insurance

Types of Insurance You May Need

General Liability Insurance

Covers property damage and bodily injuries you may cause while on the job (e.g. breaking a window with a mower).

Commercial Auto Insurance

Covers work trucks and trailers in case of an accident or theft.

Workers' Compensation Insurance

Required in most states if you have employees. It covers medical bills and lost wages for on-the-job injuries.

Equipment Insurance (Inland Marine)

Protects tools and machines while in transit or on-site.

Umbrella Insurance

Adds extra coverage on top of your other policies for major claims.

Pros


- Protects your business from lawsuits and big financial losses
- Builds trust with clients—many require proof of insurance
- Helps you meet legal requirements (like workers' comp)
- Covers equipment loss, theft, or damage


Cons

- Can be expensive, especially when you're just starting out
- Policy exclusions might leave you uncovered in some cases
- Shopping for the right policy can be time-consuming
- Premiums may increase after claims

Key Insurance Statistics

- 80% of landscaping businesses carry general liability insurance.
- 65% of clients say they prefer to hire insured landscapers.
- \$3,000–\$6,000/year: Average cost for full coverage (varies based on company size and services offered).
- 25% of small business owners said a single accident could force them to close without insurance.
- Workers' comp claims in landscaping often cost \$10,000+ on average.

 Don't underinsure just to save money—one claim could cost more than your whole policy. Always read what's excluded, and update your coverage as your business grows.

 Clients trust insured landscaping businesses.

Mention your coverage in your marketing and bids—it can help you close bigger deals.

What Happens If You Skip Insurance?

No insurance? Here's what you're risking:

- Paying out of pocket for damaged property or injuries
- Lawsuits from clients or third parties
- Fines for violating state workers' comp laws
- Losing high-value clients who demand proof of coverage
- Losing your business if a claim bankrupts you

How Much Coverage Do You Actually Need?

Your coverage needs depend on:

- How many employees you have
- What services you offer (e.g., hardscaping, chemical spraying)
- The value of your equipment
- Whether you use work trucks/trailers

Start with general liability and commercial auto. Add others as your business grows or state law requires it.

**Insurance isn't just red tape—it's protection. One damaged fence, stolen mower, or employee injury could cost you more than your premium ever will. Make it part of your foundation.*