

NEW BRUNSWICK LANDSCAPING

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# Costs & Pricing

Landscaping costs, contractor rates, project budgeting, and estimates in the New Brunswick market

21 Expert Answers from Landscape IQ

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## Cost to resurface an asphalt driveway in NB?

Resurfacing an asphalt driveway in New Brunswick typically costs **\$3-\$6 per square foot, meaning a standard 20x50 foot driveway runs \$3,000-\$6,000**. The wide price range depends on your driveway's current condition, access for equipment, and whether repairs are needed before resurfacing.

### Understanding Resurfacing vs. Replacement

Resurfacing involves applying a new 1.5-2 inch layer of asphalt over your existing driveway, which works well if your current base is structurally sound with only surface cracking or minor settling. If you have major potholes, significant heaving from frost, or base failure, full replacement (\$8-\$12 per square foot) may be more cost-effective long-term.

### New Brunswick Climate Considerations

Our freeze-thaw cycles are particularly hard on asphalt. The contractor should use a mix designed for Maritime conditions with proper drainage considerations. Spring is often when winter damage becomes apparent, making late spring through early fall the ideal time for resurfacing work. Most reputable contractors won't resurface when temperatures consistently drop below 10°C, as the asphalt won't compact properly.

### What Affects Your Cost

Several factors influence pricing in the NB market. **Driveway size and shape** matter most — long, straight driveways are more economical per square foot than curved or narrow ones. **Prep work requirements** can add \$500-\$1,500 if you need crack sealing, pothole patching, or edge repairs before resurfacing. **Access challenges** increase costs if equipment can't easily reach your driveway. **Location within NB** affects pricing too — expect higher costs in rural areas due to material transport, while Moncton, Fredericton, and Saint John typically have more competitive pricing.

### Additional Costs to Consider

Most quotes include basic prep work, but you might need extras like **crack sealing** (\$2-\$4 per linear foot), **edge restoration** (\$8-\$15 per linear foot), or **drainage improvements** (\$500-\$2,000). If your driveway connects to a municipal street, you may need a **municipal permit** (\$50-\$200) depending on your city's requirements.

### When to Hire a Professional

Asphalt resurfacing requires specialized equipment, proper temperature control, and experience with NB's climate challenges. The heavy machinery, hot asphalt handling, and need for proper compaction make this strictly a professional job. A quality contractor will assess your base condition, recommend repairs, and warranty their work.

for 2-5 years.

## Getting the Best Value

Get quotes from at least three contractors, ensuring they're licensed and carry proper insurance. Ask about their asphalt mix specifications for Maritime conditions and whether they include basic crack sealing in their price. The cheapest quote often isn't the best value if corners are cut on prep work or material quality.

Need help finding qualified asphalt contractors? New Brunswick Landscaping can connect you with experienced paving professionals through the New Brunswick Construction Network for free estimates on your driveway project.

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Q2

## How much for lawn grading and seeding in NB?

**Lawn grading and seeding in New Brunswick typically costs \$2-4 per square foot for basic grading with premium seed, or \$1,500-6,000+ for an average residential lot depending on the scope of work needed.**

The cost varies significantly based on how much grading is required. **Light grading** to smooth minor bumps and low spots runs \$1.50-2.50 per square foot including seeding. **Moderate grading** to fix drainage issues or level uneven areas costs \$2.50-4.00 per square foot. **Heavy grading** requiring soil removal, importation of topsoil, or significant slope changes can reach \$4-8 per square foot before seeding.

**Seeding alone** (assuming the grade is already acceptable) costs \$0.75-1.50 per square foot in NB, including premium grass seed blend suitable for our Zone 4-5 climate, starter fertilizer, and straw mulch. Most contractors use a blend of 60% Kentucky Bluegrass, 20% Fine Fescue, and 20% Perennial Ryegrass - this combination handles our Maritime humidity, winter conditions, and varying sun/shade conditions across New Brunswick properties.

**Timing is critical for success in our climate.** The best window for seeding is late August through mid-September when soil is still warm (promoting germination) but cooler weather and fall rains help establishment before winter. Spring seeding (late May after soil reaches 10°C) works but requires more irrigation through our sometimes-dry summers.

**Additional costs to consider:** soil testing (\$50-100), lime application if your soil is acidic like most NB soils (\$100-200), and irrigation for the first 6-8 weeks (\$200-400 if you don't have existing sprinklers). Many NB contractors include basic soil amendment in their pricing, but severely compacted clay soils common in the Fredericton area or sandy coastal soils may need extra organic matter.

**For DIY consideration:** Homeowners can handle light grading with a rake and seeding on areas under 1,000 square feet. However, **hire a professional for** significant grade changes, drainage corrections, or areas over 2,000 square feet. Proper grading affects water flow toward your foundation and neighboring properties - mistakes here create expensive problems later.

Most reputable contractors provide a one-year establishment guarantee, meaning they'll oversee thin areas the following spring at no charge. Always verify the contractor carries liability insurance and WorkSafeNB coverage before starting work.

Need help finding a qualified landscaper for your grading project? New Brunswick Landscaping can match you with local professionals who understand our unique soil conditions and climate requirements.

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Q3

## Landscape renovation cost per sq ft in NB?

**Landscape renovation costs in New Brunswick typically range from \$8-\$25 per square foot**, depending on the scope of work and materials chosen. This wide range reflects the difference between basic refreshes and complete overhauls with premium features.

**Basic renovation** (\$8-\$12 per sq ft) includes removing old plantings, soil amendment, new perennials and shrubs, fresh mulch, and basic edging. This works well for updating tired foundation plantings or refreshing existing garden beds that have good bones but need new life.

**Mid-range renovation** (\$12-\$18 per sq ft) adds elements like decorative stone borders, upgraded plant selections, soil replacement rather than just amendment, and simple hardscape features like stepping stones or small retaining

walls. This level often includes installing drip irrigation for the new plantings.

**Premium renovation** (\$18-\$25+ per sq ft) incorporates significant hardscaping like natural stone pathways, built-in planters, outdoor lighting, and mature specimen plants. Projects requiring extensive grading, drainage solutions, or structural elements like pergolas push costs higher.

**New Brunswick-specific factors** affect pricing significantly. Our short growing season means contractors pack work into May through October, creating seasonal demand spikes. Maritime clay soils often require more soil amendment or replacement than initially expected, and our freeze-thaw cycles demand proper hardscape installation with deeper bases than warmer climates.

**Regional cost variations** exist across the province. Moncton and Saint John typically see prices at the higher end due to material transport costs and contractor availability, while smaller communities may offer more competitive rates but potentially longer wait times for specialized work.

**What's typically included** in renovation pricing: design consultation, plant and material removal, soil preparation, new plantings, mulching, and cleanup. **Not included:** permits for structural work, irrigation system installation (add \$3-6 per sq ft), or significant grading changes.

**Timing affects costs** substantially in New Brunswick. Spring projects (May-June) command premium pricing due to high demand, while late summer work (August-September) often offers better rates. However, August is actually ideal timing for many renovations since plants establish well in warm soil before winter.

**When to hire a professional** versus DIY depends on scope. Homeowners can handle plant replacement and mulching, but soil grading, hardscape integration, and large plant installation benefit from professional expertise. Poor drainage or structural issues definitely require professional assessment.

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## How much does a full backyard landscaping project cost in Moncton New Brunswick?

**A full backyard landscaping project in Moncton typically costs between \$15,000 and \$50,000 for an average residential property, with most homeowners spending \$20,000-\$35,000 for a comprehensive transformation that includes a patio, plantings, grading, and basic features.** The wide range reflects the enormous variety in project scope, materials, and property conditions across Moncton's neighborhoods.

**A mid-range backyard project in the \$20,000-\$35,000 range typically includes** a 200-300 square foot paver patio (\$18-30 per square foot installed), new sod or seeded lawn areas (\$2.00-3.50 per square foot for sod), foundation plantings with shrubs and perennials (\$2,000-5,000), basic grading and drainage work (\$1,500-3,000), and a simple garden bed with mulch and edging. Add a retaining wall (\$35-65 per square foot of face area) or steps (\$1,000-3,000 per set), and costs climb quickly.

**Premium projects in the \$40,000-\$50,000+ range** layer in features like natural stone patios (\$25-45 per square foot), an outdoor fire pit area (\$1,500-5,000), landscape lighting (\$2,000-5,000), an irrigation system (\$3,000-6,000), and mature tree and specimen plantings. Some Moncton homeowners also invest in privacy fencing, pergolas, or water features that can push total project costs above \$60,000.

Moncton's specific conditions affect pricing in several ways. The city sits in Zone 5a-5b with a mix of clay and sandy loam soils — grading and drainage work is often necessary because many properties in neighborhoods like Riverview and Dieppe have poor natural drainage. Frost depth of 1.2-1.5 metres means patio bases and retaining wall footings must be dug deeper than in milder climates, adding labour and material costs. The relatively short construction season (May through October) concentrates demand, so booking a landscaper in January or February for spring work often yields better pricing than calling in May.

**To manage costs on a Moncton backyard project, consider phasing the work over 2-3 seasons.** Year one might focus on grading, drainage, and the patio — the structural foundation that everything else builds on. Year two adds plantings, garden beds, and lawn. Year three layers in lighting, irrigation, and decorative features. This approach spreads the financial impact and lets you live with the space before committing to the finishing touches.

Always get at least three detailed written quotes from licensed New Brunswick landscapers. A quality quote should itemize materials, labour, and equipment rental separately so you can compare apples to apples. Be cautious of quotes dramatically below market rates — in Moncton's competitive landscaping market, lowball bids often signal corners being cut on base preparation or material quality.

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Q5

## What is the average cost of weekly lawn mowing service in Fredericton NB?

**Weekly lawn mowing service in Fredericton costs \$35 to \$65 per visit for a standard residential property, with most homeowners paying \$40-\$50 per cut for an average-sized lot of 3,000-6,000 square feet.** Over a full mowing season (typically late May through mid-October, roughly 20-22 weeks), this works out to a seasonal total of \$800 to \$2,000 depending on your property size, terrain, and service frequency.

Pricing in Fredericton falls toward the lower to middle end of the New Brunswick range because the city has a healthy number of competing lawn care providers, and properties tend to be relatively flat and accessible compared to hillier areas like Saint John. However, several factors can push your per-visit cost higher. **Properties larger than 8,000 square feet, lots with significant slopes, homes with extensive garden bed edging, or yards with many obstacles** (trees, play structures, gardens) all add time and justify higher pricing.

**Most Fredericton lawn care companies offer two pricing models:** per-visit pricing and seasonal contracts. Per-visit pricing gives you flexibility to skip weeks during drought when grass isn't growing, but rates are typically \$5-10 higher per visit. Seasonal contracts lock in a fixed weekly price and guarantee service, usually working out to \$800-\$1,500 for the full season. Some companies offer bi-weekly service at \$50-\$80 per visit for homeowners looking to save money, though this often results in overgrown cuts that stress the grass.

**A standard mowing visit in Fredericton typically includes** mowing at the proper height (3-3.5 inches for summer), string trimming around fence lines, garden beds, and trees, and blowing clippings off driveways and walkways. Most services leave clippings on the lawn (grasscycling), which returns nutrients to the soil. Premium packages that add weekly edging, garden bed maintenance, or hedge trimming cost \$60-\$100+ per visit.

When comparing quotes, ask about insurance and whether workers use commercial-grade equipment. A properly insured lawn care company in New Brunswick carries at least \$2 million in general liability coverage — if an uninsured operator damages your property or a rock flies through a window, you may have no recourse. Also confirm whether spring cleanup and fall cleanup are included in the seasonal price or billed separately. Spring cleanups run \$200-\$500 and fall cleanups \$250-\$600 in the Fredericton area.

**To get the best value, book your seasonal mowing contract in March or early April** before companies fill their routes. Many Fredericton landscapers offer 5-10% discounts for early booking or multi-service bundles that combine mowing with fertilization, aeration, and seasonal cleanups.

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Q6

## How much does a 200 square foot paver patio cost to install in New Brunswick?

**A 200 square foot paver patio in New Brunswick costs between \$3,600 and \$6,000 for standard concrete pavers, with an average installed price of \$18-30 per square foot including base preparation, materials, and labour.** Upgrading to natural stone (flagstone or granite) increases the cost to \$25-45 per square foot, bringing the total to \$5,000-\$9,000 for the same 200 square foot area.

The installed cost breaks down into several components. **Base preparation accounts for roughly 30-40% of the total cost** and is the most critical element for patio longevity in New Brunswick's freeze-thaw climate. A proper base for NB conditions requires excavating 12-16 inches deep (accounting for the 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth), installing 8-10 inches of compacted gravel base (3/4-inch crusher run), 1 inch of leveling sand, and then the pavers themselves. Skimping on base depth is the most common reason patios heave and buckle after a New Brunswick winter — and it's the repair most frequently seen by local landscapers every spring.

**Material costs for concrete pavers themselves range from \$3-8 per square foot** depending on style, color, and thickness. Standard Holland or cobble-style pavers sit at the lower end, while textured, tumbled, or permeable pavers cost more. For a 200 square foot patio, budget \$600-\$1,600 in paver materials alone. Add polymeric sand for the joints (\$40-\$80 per patio) and edge restraints (\$100-\$200), and your material total runs \$1,200-\$2,500.

**Labour costs in New Brunswick run \$10-\$15 per square foot** for experienced installers, reflecting the skilled work involved in proper excavation, grading for drainage, base compaction, and precise paver installation. A 200 square foot patio typically takes a two-person crew 2-3 days to complete from excavation to finished product.

Several factors specific to New Brunswick can affect your final cost. Properties with poor drainage (common in Fredericton's river valley clay soils) may need additional drainage work beneath the patio — a French drain or weeping tile system can add \$500-\$1,500. Sloped yards requiring retaining walls or steps adjacent to the patio add \$1,000-\$3,000+ depending on height. Access issues (carrying materials through narrow side yards or over fences) add labour time and cost.

**When budgeting your patio project, also consider these common add-ons:** a raised border or soldier course of contrasting pavers (\$200-\$500), a built-in fire pit pad (\$500-\$1,500 for the patio portion), or integrated LED step lighting (\$300-\$800). Getting quotes from at least three New Brunswick landscaping companies is essential, and always ask to see photos of projects they've completed that are at least 2-3 years old — this proves their base work holds up through NB winters.

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## Is it cheaper to install sod or seed a new lawn in New Brunswick?

**Seeding is significantly cheaper upfront — roughly 60-75% less than sod installation — but sod delivers an instant lawn and carries less risk of failure.** For a typical 3,000 square foot New Brunswick lawn, seeding costs \$600-\$1,500 while sodding the same area runs \$6,000-\$10,500 installed, making the price difference substantial.

The **cost breakdown for seeding** includes quality grass seed at \$4-8 per pound (you'll need 6-9 pounds per 1,000 square feet, so roughly \$70-\$200 in seed), starter fertilizer (\$30-\$50), topsoil or compost for topdressing (\$200-\$500), and optional straw or erosion blanket (\$50-\$150). If you hire a professional to prepare the seedbed, grade, seed, and apply starter amendments, expect to pay \$0.20-\$0.50 per square foot, bringing the total for 3,000 square feet to \$600-\$1,500. DIY seeding can cut costs to \$300-\$700 for materials alone.

**Sod costs \$2.00-\$3.50 per square foot installed** in New Brunswick, which includes the sod itself, delivery, soil preparation, grading, and professional installation. The sod material alone costs \$0.50-\$1.00 per square foot from NB suppliers, with the remainder covering labour, soil prep, and equipment. For 3,000 square feet, you're looking at \$6,000-\$10,500 total — a premium, but you walk away with a fully established lawn the same day.

**The hidden costs of seeding often narrow the gap more than homeowners expect.** Seeded lawns in New Brunswick take 8-12 weeks to establish and may need overseeding in thin areas the following fall, adding another \$100-\$200 per 1,000 square feet. You'll use significantly more water during the 3-4 week germination period (watering twice daily), and there's genuine risk of washout during heavy Maritime rainfall events. Erosion on sloped properties near Fredericton's hills or Saint John's coastal terrain can wash away seed entirely, requiring reapplication.

**The best timing also differs.** Sod can be installed from May through October in most of New Brunswick, though spring and early fall are ideal. Seeding is most successful in a narrow September window when soil temperatures are warm, competition from weeds is low, and fall rains provide natural moisture. Spring seeding (late May) is riskier due to weed competition and summer heat stress on young seedlings.

**For most NB homeowners, the practical recommendation depends on budget, timeline, and property conditions.** If budget is tight and you're patient, seed your lawn in September using a 60% Kentucky Bluegrass, 20% Fine Fescue, 20% Perennial Ryegrass blend and accept that it will take a full year to fully mature. If you need an instant lawn, have a sloped property prone to erosion, or are on a tight timeline (selling a home, hosting an event), sod is worth the premium investment.

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Q8

## How much does tree removal cost in Saint John New Brunswick?

**Tree removal in Saint John costs \$500 to \$3,000 or more, with most residential removals falling in the \$800-\$1,800 range.** The price depends primarily on the tree's height, trunk diameter, species, location relative to structures, and the complexity of access. A small ornamental tree under 25 feet may cost as little as \$300-\$500, while a large 80-foot White Pine or Maple near a house can exceed \$3,000.

**The main factors that drive tree removal pricing in Saint John include tree size and the proximity to structures.** Trees under 30 feet with clear drop zones on all sides are straightforward — the crew can fell them in one piece, chip the branches, and be done in a few hours. This type of removal typically costs \$500-\$1,000. Trees between 30-60 feet, or those within 20 feet of a house, power lines, or fence, require sectional removal — the arborist climbs the tree (or uses a bucket truck) and removes it in pieces, lowering branches with ropes. This technical work runs \$1,000-\$2,500. Very large trees or emergency removals after storms can exceed \$3,000-\$5,000.

**Stump removal is usually quoted separately** and adds \$150-\$400 for grinding depending on stump diameter. Most tree services offer stump grinding as an add-on for \$100-\$150 less when bundled with the tree removal itself. Stump grinding takes the stump down 6-12 inches below grade and fills the hole with chips. Full stump extraction (pulling the entire root ball) is more disruptive and expensive (\$300-\$600+), and is typically only done when you're preparing the area for new construction or planting.

**Saint John's coastal terrain and Maritime weather create unique considerations.** Many residential trees in Saint John grow on slopes or in rocky soil, which can complicate crane access and increase costs by 20-30%. Wind-damaged or partially fallen trees (common after winter storms and nor'easters) are classified as hazardous removals and command premium pricing due to safety risks. After major storm events, demand for tree services spikes and wait times can extend to several weeks.

**Before removing any tree in Saint John, check the city's tree removal bylaws.** Saint John has regulations governing tree removal, particularly for significant or heritage trees and in certain zoning areas. You may need to apply for a permit and in some cases plant a replacement tree. Fines for unauthorized removal of protected trees can be significant. Your tree removal company should be familiar with local regulations and can often handle the permit application process.

When hiring a tree removal service, verify they carry proper insurance — at minimum \$2 million general liability and workers' compensation coverage through WorkSafeNB. Always get 2-3 written quotes that specify what's included: felling, branch chipping, log removal, cleanup, and stump grinding (or not). Ask whether wood removal is included or if they charge extra to haul away the trunk sections.

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Q9

## What is the average cost of a spring cleanup service in Moncton NB?

**Spring cleanup service in Moncton costs \$200 to \$500 for a standard residential property, with most homeowners paying \$250-\$400 for a thorough post-winter cleanup.** This is one of the most essential seasonal services in New Brunswick, where 250-300cm of annual snowfall leaves behind months of accumulated debris, sand, salt, and winter damage that needs clearing before the growing season can begin.

**A standard spring cleanup package in Moncton typically includes** raking and removal of dead leaves, branches, and debris from lawn areas and garden beds; clearing out winter sand and salt deposits along driveways, walkways, and curb edges; cutting back dead perennial stems and ornamental grasses from the previous season; an initial inspection of garden beds for winter damage; dethatching or power raking the lawn to remove dead grass buildup; edging along beds, walkways, and driveways; and a first mow if the grass has started growing.

**Pricing depends on property size, the volume of debris, and the condition of garden beds.** A small Moncton property under 3,000 square feet of lawn with minimal garden beds may cost \$200-\$300. A larger property with 5,000+ square feet of lawn, multiple garden beds, and significant winter debris can run \$400-\$500 or more. Properties that didn't receive a fall cleanup tend to cost more in spring, since a full season of unraked leaves, plus winter debris, creates much more work.

**Several Moncton-specific factors affect spring cleanup timing and cost.** The city's Zone 5a-5b climate means snow typically clears by early to mid-April, but soils stay saturated and soft for 2-3 weeks after snowmelt. Walking on or raking waterlogged soil compacts it and damages grass crowns, so most landscapers schedule spring cleanups for late April through mid-May, when the ground has firmed up enough to work on without causing harm. The narrow window between soil drying and grass starting to grow creates high demand, so booking early — ideally in March — ensures you get your preferred timing.

**Spring cleanup also serves as an important assessment opportunity.** Your landscaper should flag any winter damage to plantings, hardscaping (frost-heaved pavers or cracked retaining walls), and lawn areas affected by snow mould, ice encasement, or vole damage. Identifying these issues early gives you time to plan and budget for repairs before the full growing season hits.

Many Moncton lawn care companies offer spring cleanup as part of a seasonal package that includes weekly mowing, fertilization, and fall cleanup, often at a 10-15% discount compared to booking each service individually. A full-season package including spring cleanup, weekly mowing, 4 fertilizer applications, and fall cleanup typically runs \$1,500-\$3,000 in the Moncton area.

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## How much does a retaining wall cost per linear foot in New Brunswick?

**Retaining walls in New Brunswick cost \$35 to \$65 per square foot of wall face, which translates to roughly \$70 to \$260 per linear foot depending on the wall height.** A 2-foot-tall wall costs approximately \$70-\$130 per linear foot, while a 4-foot wall runs \$140-\$260 per linear foot. For a typical 30-linear-foot residential retaining wall at 3 feet tall, expect to pay \$3,150-\$5,850 fully installed.

The price per square foot of face area is the most accurate way to compare quotes because it accounts for both wall length and height. **Material choice is the biggest variable in pricing.** Concrete retaining wall blocks (such as Allan Block, Versa-Lok, or Techo-Bloc) are the most common choice in New Brunswick, costing \$20-\$35 per square foot of face installed. Natural stone (fieldstone, armour stone, or granite) creates a premium look at \$30-\$50+ per square foot. Pressure-treated timber walls are the most affordable at \$15-\$25 per square foot but have a shorter lifespan (15-20 years versus 50+ for concrete or stone) and are increasingly falling out of favour.

**Base preparation is critical in New Brunswick and represents a significant portion of the cost.** With frost depths of 1.2-1.5 metres, retaining wall footings must extend below the frost line to prevent heaving. The base typically requires excavating 18-24 inches below grade, installing 12-16 inches of compacted gravel base, and incorporating proper drainage — a perforated pipe in gravel behind the wall with filter fabric. Skipping or reducing the base depth is the most common cause of retaining wall failure in NB, and repairs typically cost more than doing it properly the first time.

**Walls over 4 feet tall in New Brunswick enter a different cost category.** Most municipalities require engineered designs for walls above 4 feet, and some (including Fredericton and Moncton) require a building permit. Engineering fees add \$500-\$2,000 to the project, and the wall itself requires geogrid reinforcement, heavier base preparation, and often larger block sizes — all of which push costs to \$50-\$80+ per square foot of face. For walls over 6 feet, consider terracing with two shorter walls, which can be more cost-effective and often eliminates the engineering requirement.

**Site conditions across New Brunswick significantly impact pricing.** Steep slopes require more excavation. Rocky soil (common in northern NB and Saint John) increases digging time and may require machinery. Clay-heavy soils in the Fredericton area need more attention to drainage behind the wall. Limited access for equipment (carrying materials through side yards) adds labour costs of \$500-\$1,500. Always get at least three detailed quotes that specify base depth, drainage method, and material brand, and ask to see completed walls that have survived at least two NB winters.

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Q11

## What does a seasonal snow removal contract cost in Fredericton NB?

**A seasonal residential snow removal contract in Fredericton costs \$600 to \$1,500 for a standard property, with most homeowners paying \$800-\$1,200 for full-season coverage from November through April.** This pricing reflects Fredericton's heavy snowfall — the city averages 250-300cm annually — and includes a guaranteed number of visits or unlimited clearing above a trigger depth threshold.

**Seasonal contracts in Fredericton come in two main structures.** The most common is an unlimited contract with a trigger depth, typically 5cm (2 inches). Every time snowfall reaches the trigger, the contractor clears your driveway, walkways, and front steps — no matter how many times that happens over the season. In a heavy winter, this might mean 30-40 visits, making the per-visit cost very attractive at \$20-\$40 each. The alternative is a capped contract with a set number of visits (usually 20-25), with additional visits charged at \$40-\$60 each. Unlimited contracts cost 15-25% more but eliminate surprise bills during snowy winters.

**Standard residential snow removal in Fredericton typically covers** a two-car driveway (up to 50-60 feet long), front walkway, and entrance steps. Sidewalk clearing (if your property borders a public sidewalk) is usually included. Salt or sand application is sometimes included in the base price but often charged at \$10-\$20 per application on top. Larger driveways, additional walkways, or back deck clearing add to the seasonal price. A corner lot with extended sidewalk frontage can add \$200-\$400 to the seasonal contract.

**Per-visit pricing is the alternative to seasonal contracts** and works well for homeowners who want to compare costs or only need service occasionally. Per-visit rates in Fredericton run \$40-\$80 depending on driveway size and snowfall amount, with most contractors charging more for heavy snowfalls over 15-20cm. During Fredericton's heaviest months (January and February), you might need 8-12 visits per month, making per-visit pricing substantially more expensive than a seasonal contract during high-snow winters.

**Several practical considerations for Fredericton snow removal contracts.** Book your contract in September or early October — reputable contractors fill their routes quickly and latecomers either pay premium rates or can't find reliable service. Verify that the contract specifies a clearing timeline (most guarantee service within 4-12 hours after snowfall ends, with priority for early morning clearing before your commute). Confirm insurance coverage — a contractor's equipment can damage pavement, lawn edges, or property, and you want assurance their liability policy covers repairs.

Some Fredericton contractors bundle snow removal with lawn care, offering year-round property maintenance contracts at a 10-15% discount. This can bring seasonal snow removal costs down to \$500-\$700 when combined with summer mowing and seasonal cleanups, while guaranteeing you a reliable service provider who knows your property in every season.

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**Q12**

## How much does an irrigation system cost to install in New Brunswick?

**A residential irrigation system in New Brunswick costs \$3,000 to \$6,000 to install for an average property, with most homeowners paying \$3,500-\$5,000 for a professionally designed and installed system covering 3,000-6,000 square feet of lawn and garden beds.** This includes design, trenching, pipes, sprinkler heads, a controller, backflow prevention, and connection to your water supply.

The cost breaks down into several components. **Design and installation labour represents 40-50% of the total**, reflecting the skill required to properly zone the system, calculate water pressure and flow rates, and ensure even coverage. Materials — including PVC pipe, fittings, sprinkler heads (rotary or spray), a smart controller, valves, and backflow preventer — account for the remaining 50-60%. A typical NB residential system has 4-6 zones, with each

zone covering a different area of the property on a programmed schedule.

**New Brunswick's climate creates specific requirements that affect irrigation system design and cost.** The 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth means all supply lines must either be installed below the frost line (expensive) or, more commonly, designed for complete winterization by blowing out all water with compressed air each fall. Winterization service costs \$75-\$150 per visit and is absolutely non-negotiable — water left in pipes will freeze, expand, and crack fittings, leading to expensive spring repairs. Spring activation (turning the system back on, checking heads, adjusting zones) typically runs \$75-\$125.

**Smart controllers are increasingly standard in NB installations** and add \$150-\$400 to the system cost but save money long-term. Wi-Fi-enabled controllers with rain sensors and weather-based adjustment automatically skip watering during New Brunswick's frequent Maritime rainfall events, preventing overwatering and potentially reducing water bills by 20-30%. Given that the province receives 1,100-1,200mm of annual precipitation, there are many weeks during the growing season when irrigation is unnecessary — a smart controller recognizes this and adjusts accordingly.

**Drip irrigation zones for garden beds and foundation plantings add \$300-\$800 per zone** but use water far more efficiently than spray heads. For New Brunswick homeowners with extensive perennial gardens or vegetable plots, drip zones provide targeted root-zone watering that produces healthier plants while using 40-60% less water than overhead sprinklers.

When evaluating quotes from New Brunswick irrigation contractors, ensure the proposal specifies head-to-head coverage (each sprinkler's spray should reach the next sprinkler), matched precipitation rates within each zone, and a proper backflow prevention device as required by local plumbing codes. Also ask about warranty terms — reputable installers offer 2-5 year warranties on parts and workmanship. A quality irrigation system lasts 15-25 years with proper winterization and occasional head replacements, making it a sound long-term investment for NB properties.

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## What is the average cost of a professional garden design in New Brunswick?

**A professional garden or landscape design in New Brunswick costs \$300 to \$1,500, with most residential design plans falling in the \$500-\$1,000 range for a comprehensive backyard design.** The price depends on the property size, complexity of the design, the designer's credentials, and whether you need a basic planting plan or a full landscape architecture drawing with hardscaping, grading, and lighting layouts.

**At the entry level (\$300-\$500), you'll typically receive a scaled planting plan** that shows recommended plant species, quantities, and placement for a specific area — often a front foundation planting or a single garden bed. These plans are hand-drawn or digitally produced and include a plant list with sizes, spacing, and basic care notes. Many New Brunswick garden centres and nurseries offer basic design services in this price range, sometimes waiving the fee if you purchase your plants through them.

**Mid-range designs (\$500-\$1,000) provide a full property landscape plan** that addresses the entire yard or a substantial portion of it. This includes a site visit and consultation, measurements of the property, analysis of sun exposure and soil conditions, a detailed scaled drawing showing hardscape elements (patio areas, walkways, garden bed outlines), a comprehensive planting plan with species selected for New Brunswick's climate zones (4a-5b depending on location), and typically two rounds of revisions. Designers at this level often have horticulture certifications and years of local experience selecting plants that thrive in NB's acidic soils and Maritime climate.

**Premium designs (\$1,000-\$1,500+) come from certified landscape architects or designers** and include detailed construction drawings suitable for contractor bidding. These plans typically cover grading and drainage engineering, retaining wall specifications, patio and walkway construction details with cross-sections, lighting plans with fixture specifications, irrigation zone layouts, and detailed planting plans with mature size projections. For complex properties involving significant grade changes, multiple outdoor rooms, or integration with existing structures, fees can exceed \$2,000.

**Investing in a professional design before starting a major landscaping project in New Brunswick saves money in the long run.** A good design prevents expensive mistakes like placing sun-loving plants in shade, choosing species that can't handle Zone 4a winters in Fredericton, or building a patio that traps water against your foundation. The design also serves as a phasing roadmap — you can install the plan over multiple seasons while ensuring each phase integrates seamlessly with the next.

**When selecting a designer in New Brunswick, ask about their familiarity with local conditions** — Maritime climate, acidic soils, frost depths, salt tolerance for roadside plantings, and native species options. A designer experienced with NB conditions will specify plants like Serviceberry, Red Osier Dogwood, and native ferns rather than Zone 7 species that look great in catalogues but can't survive a New Brunswick winter.

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Q14

## How much does stump grinding cost in Moncton New Brunswick?

**Stump grinding in Moncton costs \$150 to \$400 per stump, with most residential stumps costing \$175-\$300 depending on the diameter, species, root structure, and accessibility.** The baseline price for a single stump under 18 inches in diameter is typically \$150-\$200, with discounts available when grinding multiple stumps in a single visit — many companies drop the price to \$75-\$125 per additional stump.

**Stump diameter is the primary cost driver.** Most Moncton tree services price by the inch, charging \$3-\$5 per inch of stump diameter at ground level. A 12-inch stump costs approximately \$36-\$60 based on diameter alone, plus a minimum service charge of \$100-\$150 that covers equipment transport and setup. Larger stumps — a 30-inch Maple or Oak can easily be found in Moncton's mature neighborhoods like Humphreys and Lewisville — run \$200-\$400 due to the extended grinding time and harder wood. Very large stumps over 36 inches may exceed \$400 and require a full-size commercial grinder rather than the smaller self-propelled units.

**Species hardness matters more than many homeowners expect.** Softwood stumps from Spruce, Pine, and Fir (abundant throughout New Brunswick) grind quickly and cost less in labour time. Hardwood stumps from Maple, Oak, Ash, and Birch take significantly longer to grind and cost 15-25% more. The root systems differ as well — surface-spreading roots from Maple or Poplar trees may need additional grinding to smooth the area, adding to the total cost.

**Grinding depth affects pricing and what you can do with the area afterward.** Standard grinding goes 6-8 inches below grade, which is sufficient for planting grass over the area. If you plan to plant a new tree or install a garden bed in the same spot, request grinding to 12-16 inches, which typically adds \$50-\$100 to the cost. Full root

extraction (pulling the entire stump and major roots) is a different service entirely, costing \$300-\$600+ and involving significantly more property disruption.

**After grinding, you're left with a depression filled with wood chips and sawdust.** Most services include filling the hole with the ground material at no extra charge, but settling will occur over the following months. Plan to top up the area with topsoil and seed or sod in the fall. If you're grinding a hardwood stump, be aware that the chips can temporarily lower soil pH as they decompose — relevant in New Brunswick where soils are already acidic (pH 4.5-6.0).

**When getting quotes in Moncton, ask about access requirements.** If the stump is in a backyard accessible only through a narrow gate, the company may need to use a smaller walk-behind grinder, which takes longer and may cost more. Stumps near fences, foundations, underground utilities, or septic systems require extra caution and sometimes hand-excavation around the perimeter before grinding. Always mark underground utilities before the appointment — call NB Power or use the Click Before You Dig service.

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Q15

## What does it cost to install landscape lighting in a New Brunswick backyard?

**Professional landscape lighting installation in a New Brunswick backyard costs \$2,000 to \$5,000 for a typical residential project, with most homeowners investing \$2,500-\$4,000 for a well-designed system of 8-15 fixtures that illuminates key features like pathways, trees, patios, and architectural elements.** The price includes design consultation, fixtures, low-voltage transformer, wiring, installation labour, and final aiming.

**The main cost components break down as follows.** Quality low-voltage LED fixtures range from \$50-\$250 each depending on the style and construction material — brass and copper fixtures cost more upfront but last decades

without corroding in New Brunswick's damp Maritime climate. A system of 10-12 fixtures uses \$500-\$3,000 in fixture costs alone. The low-voltage transformer that powers the system costs \$150-\$400 depending on wattage capacity. Wiring, connectors, and accessories add \$200-\$500. Installation labour for a professional landscape lighting designer/installer in NB runs \$500-\$1,500, reflecting the time needed for trenching wire paths, placing fixtures, and fine-tuning beam angles after dark.

**New Brunswick's climate creates specific considerations for lighting installations.** The province's 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth means all in-ground wiring must be buried at least 6-8 inches deep to avoid damage from frost heaving — shallower wiring will get pushed up and exposed. Fixture stakes and mounting hardware must be robust enough to handle the ground movement from freeze-thaw cycles. Quality brass, copper, or marine-grade aluminum fixtures withstand the Maritime humidity and coastal salt air far better than painted steel or plastic fixtures, which corrode and fade within 2-3 years in NB conditions.

**LED technology has transformed landscape lighting economics.** Modern LED fixtures use 75-80% less electricity than older halogen systems and last 30,000-50,000 hours versus 2,000-4,000 for halogen bulbs. A 10-fixture LED system typically runs on less than 200 watts total, costing under \$5 per month in electricity at NB Power's residential rates. The reduced wattage also means a smaller, less expensive transformer and lighter-gauge wire, reducing overall system cost.

**For New Brunswick specifically, landscape lighting adds usable hours to your outdoor living space during the short summer season** and provides safety and curb appeal through the long dark winters (sunset before 4:30 PM in December). Focusing lighting on walkways, steps, and the driveway entrance is particularly valuable given that NB homeowners navigate icy, snow-covered paths for months each year.

DIY landscape lighting kits from home improvement stores cost \$200-\$800 and are adequate for basic path lighting, but they use lower-quality fixtures and lack the design expertise that creates a truly impactful result. Professional designers know how to balance light levels, avoid glare, create depth through layered lighting techniques, and select fixtures that complement your home's architecture. Most NB landscape lighting companies offer free evening consultations where they set up temporary demo fixtures so you can see the effect before committing.

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## How much should I budget for annual lawn fertilization in New Brunswick?

**Budget \$250 to \$500 for a professional annual fertilization program in New Brunswick, which typically includes 4 seasonal applications covering an average residential lawn of 3,000-5,000 square feet.** DIY homeowners can accomplish the same program for \$80-\$200 in materials, though you'll need a broadcast spreader and the time to apply 4 treatments through the growing season.

**A proper New Brunswick fertilization program consists of 4 applications timed to the province's growing season.** Application one (late May): a balanced slow-release fertilizer once soil temperatures reach 10°C and grass is actively growing — avoid the temptation to fertilize too early when roots can't absorb nutrients. Application two (late June to early July): a higher-nitrogen feeding to support summer growth and thicken the turf canopy. Application three (early to mid-August): a lighter application, sometimes including potassium to prepare for fall. Application four (late September to early October): a winterizer with higher potassium and moderate nitrogen to build root reserves for winter — this is the single most important application of the year in NB, where lawns face 5-6 months of dormancy under snow.

**Professional lawn care companies in New Brunswick price their 4-application programs based on lawn size.** A small property (under 2,000 square feet of lawn) typically costs \$200-\$300 for the season. An average property (3,000-5,000 square feet) runs \$300-\$450. Larger properties (6,000+ square feet) cost \$400-\$600 or more. These prices usually include the product, labour, and application equipment. Some companies charge per application (\$60-\$125 each), while others offer a discounted seasonal package.

**For DIY fertilization, here's a realistic material budget.** A quality slow-release granular fertilizer (brands like Scotts, CIL, or local options) costs \$25-\$50 per bag covering 4,000-5,000 square feet. You'll need 3-4 bags per season for most NB properties, totaling \$75-\$200 in fertilizer alone. Add a \$5-\$10 soil test (highly recommended to avoid guessing) and 40-60 pounds of pelletized lime (\$8-\$15 per 25-pound bag), which nearly every NB lawn needs given the province's acidic pH 4.5-6.0 soils. A broadcast spreader costs \$30-\$80 for a one-time purchase.

**When comparing professional services, look beyond price per application.** Ask what products they use — slow-release granular fertilizers are far superior to cheap quick-release formulas that produce a flush of growth followed by a crash. Confirm they adjust application rates based on your soil type (clay-heavy Fredericton soils retain nutrients differently than sandy coastal soils near Shediac or Miramichi). Check if the price includes lime application or if that's an additional charge. And verify they carry proper insurance — a fertilizer spill or misapplication that burns your lawn should be covered by the company's liability policy.

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Q17

## What is the average cost of fall cleanup and winterization in NB?

**Fall cleanup and winterization services in New Brunswick cost \$250 to \$600 for a standard residential property, with most homeowners paying \$300-\$450 for a thorough end-of-season service that prepares the lawn, gardens, and hardscaping for the province's harsh winters.** This is one of the most valuable seasonal investments for NB properties, where 250-300cm of annual snowfall and 5-6 months of freezing temperatures can cause significant damage to unprotected landscapes.

**A comprehensive fall cleanup package in New Brunswick typically includes** multiple rounds of leaf removal and disposal (NB's abundant Maple, Birch, and Oak trees drop enormous leaf volumes from late September through November), final mowing at a reduced height of 2.5 inches to prevent snow mould, garden bed cleanup including cutting back perennials and removing annual plants, removal of fallen branches and debris, application of a winterizer fertilizer to build root reserves, edging along beds and walkways, and blowing leaves from hard-to-reach areas around foundations and fencing.

**Winterization add-ons that many NB landscapers offer include** wrapping evergreen shrubs and hedges with burlap to prevent salt spray and snow damage (\$10-\$25 per shrub), mulching garden beds with 3-4 inches of protective mulch (\$200-\$500 depending on area), irrigation system blowout (\$75-\$150), and applying fall lime to correct soil pH before winter. These add-ons can bring the total fall service to \$500-\$800 for a fully winterized property.

**Pricing depends on property size, tree coverage, and the number of garden beds.** A smaller Moncton property with one or two trees and minimal garden beds may cost \$250-\$350. A larger Fredericton property with mature Maples, extensive perennial beds, and multiple lawn areas can run \$400-\$600 or more. Properties surrounded by mature deciduous trees often need 2-3 separate leaf removal visits between October and November as different

species drop at different times — this multi-visit approach costs more but ensures leaves don't smother the lawn over winter.

**The timing of fall cleanup in New Brunswick matters significantly.** Start too early (before most leaves have fallen) and you'll need additional visits. Start too late and wet, frozen leaves become difficult to remove and can cause lasting damage. Most NB landscapers schedule the main cleanup between mid-October and mid-November, with the final mow and winterizer application happening by late October before the ground freezes. Book your fall cleanup by September to secure your preferred timing — demand is high and schedules fill quickly.

Many lawn care companies in New Brunswick offer seasonal packages that bundle spring cleanup, summer mowing, fertilization, and fall cleanup at a 10-15% discount compared to individual bookings. A full-season package including all services typically runs \$1,500-\$3,000, making it the most cost-effective approach for comprehensive property care.

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**Q18**

## How much does it cost to build a fire pit area in New Brunswick?

**Building a fire pit area in New Brunswick costs \$1,500 to \$5,000 for most residential projects, with the wide range reflecting the enormous difference between a basic gravel pad with a simple ring and a full paver patio with a custom-built stone fire pit, seating walls, and lighting.** Most homeowners spend \$2,000-\$3,500 for a well-designed fire pit area that becomes a genuine outdoor living space.

**At the budget end (\$1,500-\$2,000), a basic fire pit setup includes** a level gravel pad (8-10 feet in diameter) with compacted crusher run base, a prefabricated or DIY concrete block fire pit ring (36-42 inches diameter), and simple steel fire grate. The gravel pad eliminates the cost of pavers while providing a safe, non-combustible surface. This

approach takes a skilled DIYer one weekend or a professional crew one day to complete.

**Mid-range fire pit areas (\$2,500-\$4,000) add a paver or natural stone surface** surrounding the fire pit, typically extending 3-4 feet in all directions to create a seating area of 150-200 square feet. At \$18-30 per square foot for concrete pavers (or \$25-45 for natural stone), the surface alone costs \$2,700-\$9,000 for the larger end. Most mid-range projects use concrete pavers for the surrounding area and a matching fire pit kit — precut interlocking block systems from manufacturers like Techo-Bloc or Belgard that create an attractive circular pit for \$500-\$1,200 in materials.

**Premium fire pit areas (\$4,000-\$5,000+) incorporate custom natural stone construction**, integrated seating walls (\$35-\$65 per square foot of face), landscape lighting (\$500-\$1,500 for the fire pit zone), and sometimes a cooking grate or pizza oven insert. These become true outdoor living rooms and can push past \$5,000, especially when paired with adjacent planting beds and pathways.

**New Brunswick's climate demands specific construction considerations.** The 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth means any paver surface around the fire pit needs a proper 10-12 inch compacted gravel base to resist frost heaving — skimping here means cracked and uneven pavers after the first winter. Drainage is critical since NB receives 1,100-1,200mm of annual rainfall; grade the paver surface to drain away from the fire pit and any adjacent structures. Use fire-rated materials for the pit itself — standard concrete pavers can crack and even explode from heat, while fire-rated blocks are engineered to withstand direct flame contact.

**Before building, check your municipality's open burning regulations.** Most NB cities including Fredericton, Moncton, and Saint John have bylaws governing outdoor fire pits — typically requiring a minimum distance of 3-5 metres from structures, property lines, and overhanging branches. Some municipalities require a permit or restrict fire pits to manufactured units with spark screens. A professional landscaper familiar with local regulations can ensure your fire pit meets code and won't generate complaints from neighbors.

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## Are natural stone patios more expensive than concrete pavers in NB?

**Yes, natural stone patios cost 40-60% more than concrete pavers in New Brunswick — expect to pay \$25-\$45 per square foot installed for natural flagstone or granite compared to \$18-\$30 per square foot for concrete pavers.** For a typical 200 square foot patio, that translates to \$5,000-\$9,000 for natural stone versus \$3,600-\$6,000 for concrete pavers. The premium buys unique aesthetics and extreme durability, but concrete pavers offer excellent value and performance in NB's climate.

**The cost difference stems from several factors.** Natural stone material costs \$8-\$20 per square foot for the stone alone (flagstone, granite, or slate), compared to \$3-\$8 for concrete pavers. Installation labour for natural stone runs 25-40% higher because each piece is irregular and requires skilled fitting, cutting, and leveling — a natural stone patio takes a crew significantly longer to lay than uniform interlocking pavers. Waste is also higher with natural stone (10-15% cut-off waste versus 3-5% for pavers), which is factored into material costs.

**Both materials require essentially the same base preparation in New Brunswick,** which is a significant portion of the total cost regardless of surface material. NB's 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth demands a 10-12 inch compacted gravel base for any patio to resist frost heaving. This base work — excavation, gravel, compaction, and leveling sand — costs roughly \$8-\$12 per square foot and is identical whether you're laying flagstone or pavers on top. This shared base cost means the proportional price difference between stone and pavers is somewhat less dramatic than the per-square-foot numbers suggest.

**In terms of performance in New Brunswick's Maritime climate, both materials hold up well with proper installation.** Concrete pavers have the advantage of uniform thickness and engineered interlocking systems that distribute loads evenly and resist shifting. Natural stone is inherently stronger (granite and dense flagstone won't crack from freeze-thaw cycles the way low-quality concrete sometimes does) but the irregular joints can allow more weed growth and are harder to maintain. Both materials handle de-icing salt reasonably well, though some softer natural stones like certain sandstones can deteriorate from salt exposure.

**Maintenance and longevity differ meaningfully.** Concrete pavers benefit from polymeric sand in the joints (which prevents weed growth and insect intrusion) and may need re-sanding every 3-5 years. Individual pavers can be easily replaced if damaged. Quality concrete pavers carry 25-year to lifetime manufacturer warranties. Natural stone requires more frequent joint maintenance but is virtually indestructible — a properly installed flagstone patio will outlast the house. Natural stone also develops a beautiful patina over time that many homeowners prefer to the uniform look of pavers.

**For most New Brunswick homeowners, the choice comes down to budget and aesthetic preference.**

Concrete pavers offer excellent performance, design flexibility with dozens of colours and patterns, and a lower

price point. Natural stone provides a premium, one-of-a-kind look that adds significant property value. Both are sound investments when installed on a proper frost-resistant base by an experienced NB landscaper.

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Q20

## How much does professional hedge trimming cost in New Brunswick?

**Professional hedge trimming in New Brunswick costs \$150 to \$400 per visit for most residential properties, with pricing based primarily on the total linear footage of hedge, the hedge height, and the species being trimmed.** A single short hedge along a driveway (20-30 linear feet, under 5 feet tall) may cost \$75-\$150, while a property with 100+ linear feet of mature Cedar or Privet hedge on multiple sides can run \$300-\$400 or more.

**Most NB hedge trimming companies price using a combination of linear footage and height.** Hedges under 5 feet tall cost roughly \$3-\$5 per linear foot to trim. Hedges between 5-8 feet cost \$5-\$8 per linear foot because the trimmer must work on a ladder or use extended-reach equipment. Hedges over 8 feet — common with mature Eastern White Cedar in New Brunswick — cost \$8-\$12+ per linear foot and may require specialized equipment or a two-person crew. A minimum service charge of \$75-\$150 applies regardless of hedge size, covering travel time and equipment setup.

**The species of hedge significantly affects pricing and trimming frequency in NB.** Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*) is by far the most common hedge plant in New Brunswick and grows vigorously in the province's climate, typically needing 2-3 trimmings per season (June, August, and optionally October). Privet hedges need 3-4 trimmings in a growing season. Lilac hedges are trimmed once annually immediately after blooming (late June). Yew (*Taxus*) hedges are slow-growing and need only 1-2 trimmings. Each additional trimming visit costs the same per-visit rate, so a Cedar hedge needing 3 annual trims at \$150 each totals \$450 per season.

**Timing matters for hedge health in New Brunswick.** The first trim should happen in mid-June after the spring growth flush, when new growth has extended but hasn't yet hardened. The second trim in August shapes the hedge before fall and allows time for a light flush of new growth to harden off before winter. Never trim hedges after mid-September in NB — late trimming stimulates tender new growth that can't harden before frost, causing winter burn and dieback that takes years to recover from.

**Proper hedge trimming technique is worth paying a professional for.** Hedges should be trimmed wider at the base than the top (a slight A-shape) so that lower branches receive adequate sunlight — without this taper, the base of NB hedges thins out and eventually dies, creating a top-heavy, leggy appearance that's very difficult to correct. An experienced trimmer also knows the species-specific limits — Cedar hedges, for instance, won't regenerate from old wood, so cutting too deeply into brown interior growth creates permanent bare patches.

Many New Brunswick landscaping companies offer hedge trimming as part of seasonal maintenance packages that include mowing, garden bed care, and cleanups, typically at a 10-15% discount compared to booking trimming as a standalone service.

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**Q21**

## What is the average cost to install a French drain in New Brunswick?

**A French drain installation in New Brunswick costs \$1,500 to \$4,000 for a typical residential project, with most homeowners paying \$2,000-\$3,000 for a 30-50 linear foot exterior French drain that redirects water away from foundations, low-lying lawn areas, or garden beds.** Pricing depends on the drain length, depth, soil conditions, and whether the drain ties into an existing storm water system or daylight outlet.

**The cost per linear foot for a French drain in NB ranges from \$30 to \$80**, with the variation driven primarily by trench depth and soil conditions. A shallow French drain (12-18 inches deep) for surface water collection in a garden or lawn area costs \$30-\$50 per linear foot. A deeper foundation drain (3-4 feet deep) running along the exterior of a house to address basement water intrusion costs \$50-\$80 per linear foot due to the significantly greater excavation volume and the need to work carefully around the foundation.

**A standard French drain installation includes** excavating a trench 12-24 inches wide at the specified depth, lining the trench with filter fabric to prevent soil from clogging the system, laying 4-6 inches of clean 3/4-inch gravel, installing a perforated drainage pipe (4-inch rigid PVC or flexible corrugated pipe) with perforations facing down, backfilling with gravel to within 2-3 inches of grade, wrapping the filter fabric over the top, and finishing with topsoil and sod or seed. The gravel and pipe combination creates a channel that collects subsurface water and directs it to a lower discharge point.

**New Brunswick's climate and soil conditions make French drains particularly important — and slightly more complex to install.** The 1,100-1,200mm of annual precipitation combined with heavy snowmelt in spring creates enormous seasonal water volume. Clay-heavy soils in the Fredericton river valley and parts of Moncton drain poorly, causing water to pool around foundations and in low lawn areas. The 1.2-1.5 metre frost depth means French drains must either be installed below the frost line (expensive) or designed to drain completely so no standing water remains to freeze and crack pipes. Most residential French drains in NB are installed at 18-30 inch depth and rely on gravity flow to a daylight outlet at a lower elevation.

**The discharge point is a critical design element.** The drain must have a positive outlet — either daylighting on a slope at least 3 metres from any structure, connecting to a municipal storm drain (where permitted by your local municipality), or draining into a dry well or infiltration pit. NB regulations generally prohibit directing drainage onto neighboring properties or into sanitary sewer systems. A landscaping professional experienced with NB drainage projects will assess your property grade, identify the optimal drain route, and ensure the system has adequate fall (minimum 1% slope) throughout its length. For persistent foundation water issues beyond what a simple French drain addresses, consult a foundation specialist.

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