

The Alberta Land Surveyors Commitment to Property Damage Mitigation

It is important for an Alberta Land Surveyor to properly instruct his/her field crews. This includes the proper respect and care of the property that we enter upon on and/or damage in performing a survey. It is recommended that this commitment is read and signed off by all new field staff as part of the orientation process. An Alberta Land Surveyor should also ensure that all of his/her staff gets proper field instruction on repairing sod damage.

1. I will respect and be cordial and polite to the public.
2. I acknowledge that Alberta Land Surveyors and their appointed agents have the right to enter upon but are responsible for any damage caused.
3. I shall ensure my survey vehicle displays my company signage.
4. I will attempt to contact all property owners whose property I enter and if unable to contact I will leave a message card with my company contact number.
5. I shall raise all monuments to ground level in urban areas when practical.
6. I am aware that damage could include sod, tree limbs and fence marking.
7. I will clean up a work site such that it is in the same condition as I found it. This includes sweeping or raking the grass clean of loose dirt.
8. I will keep a record of and return to any location in the spring that I was not able to properly repair in the winter.
9. I will be aware of public concerns. It is my responsibility to promote public awareness of surveying. I will protect the interest of the public and the enjoyment of land.

Dated at _____, Alberta.
This _____ day of _____, 20__.

Alberta Land Surveyor

Dated at _____, Alberta.
This _____ day of _____, 20__.

Field Staff

Minimizing the Impact of Accessing Monuments

When performing surveys in urban environments, it is often necessary to access survey monuments located on lawns. In the interest of good public relations, it is important that land surveying activities have as little impact as possible. The most sensitive areas are typically private individual's lawns. Digging up a survey monument can be done without significant or lasting damage to a sod lawn. The key points to properly replacing the divot during the growing season are listed below.

- Make the divot as deep as possible, using a spade to cleanly slice through the sod and soil.
- Place the sod divot and any extra soil dug up on a small tarp or plastic sheet.
- Replace the divot and soil carefully. Tamp it down firmly (if needed use top of sledge hammer to pack down soil).
- Keep a bucket of sand in the survey vehicle. If the replaced divot is sunken, add enough sand underneath it to level it out.
- Water the divot and immediate surrounding area thoroughly. This is especially important during hot, dry weather.
- Keep a small container of fertilizer in the survey vehicle as well. Sprinkle a small amount of it on top of the damaged grass to aid in the re-growth.
- To avoid the same piece sod being repeatedly damaged the monument should be raised or referenced.
- The lawn should be swept or scraped clean of all excavated dirt.

During winter, the grass will be dormant. As long as a clean divot is taken, digging should not harm the grass. However, the divot should be replaced in the same manner as during the growing season, eliminating the watering and fertilizing steps. A digging tool appropriate for making clean divots should be used (e.g. jackhammer with spade blade).