

Fence Line Maintenance Cost–Benefit Analysis

Based on feedback from maintenance / grounds
directors, supervisors, and staff from across the country

UnderFence™

Fence Line Length Estimates by Facility

- Perimeter fencing – range from 100 LF to 1,000+ LF
- Average High School regulation softball field (or youth baseball/softball field) – 550 LF
- Average High School regulation baseball field – 1,000 LF
- Average High School football/soccer field perimeter fencing – 1,200 LF-1,600 LF



Fence Line Maintenance Yearly Costs & Options

- Cost to maintain fence lines can easily exceed \$1-\$2 per linear foot per year and demand hours of labor per year
- Fence line maintenance options:
 - **UnderFence™**
 - String Trimming
 - Chemicals
 - Concrete



Example Fencing Amounts

Example Fencing Amounts for School Districts, Municipalities, etc. of Various Sizes	Facilities with Fencing (Youth, High School, Adult)	Approx. LF of Fence Line to Maintain
SMALL	1-2 perimeter fences; 1 football/soccer stadium 3-4 ballfields (youth-high school	4,000-6,000 LF
MEDIUM	2-3 perimeter fences; football/soccer stadiums 6-8 ballfields (youth-high school	8,000-12,000 LF
LARGE	3+ perimeter fences; 3+ football/soccer stadiums 10+ ballfields (youth-high school	15,000+ LF

UnderFence™

- Easy to self-install on new fencing or existing fencing with clearance
- One-time cost of \$3-\$4 per LF
 - Approximate 20% as expensive as concrete
 - Broader coverage than concrete
 - Predicted to last for decades (installations since 2008)
- Labor savings
 - Eliminates times/resources spent on string trimming
 - Maintain fence line/edge with mowing equipment
- Environmentally friendly
 - Eliminates need to use chemicals on fence lines
- Provides buffer/protection for fences from potential damage caused by mowers & other lawn equipment



String Trimming

- Time consuming
- Recurring costs (hours of labor, equipment and fuel)
- Potential for injuries (flying dust and debris, produces respiratory irritant for operator)
- Released engine exhaust
- Can cause damage to some types of fencing (especially vinyl)

Weekly Trimming

X

Weeks of Growing Season

=

Total Yearly Hours of Trimming

Depending on various factors, total yearly trimming costs can range from \$1,000-\$2,000+ for every 1,000 LF of fencing



Chemicals / Pesticides / Herbicides

- Costs add up over time
 - Supplies and equipment (including personal protective equipment)
 - Commercial pesticide applicator license fees
- Time consuming (requires ongoing applications)
- Health/Environmental concerns
 - Movement strengthening to decrease/eliminate cosmetic chemicals
- Unsightly (yellow stained grass)



Concrete Mow Strips

- Strong and long-lasting
- Durable in different environments
 - Extreme cold, heat, etc.
- Expensive compared to alternatives
 - Professional install required
 - Estimated cost of \$15-\$25 per LF @ $\leq 18"$ W
- Requires trimming when less than 18" W
- Potential damage to fencing (from mowing too close to fence line, etc.)
Subject to submerging or fracturing over time
 - When concrete breaks down, will require string trimming and/or spraying chemicals



Summary of Options

	UnderFence™	String Trimming	Chemicals	Concrete
Installation	Easily installed on new fencing or fencing with clearance	None	None	None
Approx. Cost	One-time cost of \$3-\$4 per LF	\$1-\$2K recurring/yearly costs (hours of labor, equipment/supplies, etc.)	\$1-\$2K recurring/yearly costs (hours of labor, equipment/supplies, etc.)	One-time cost of \$15-25 per LF @ ≤18" width
Maintenance	Once per season (recommendation to use flat blade tool to create new, clean line)	Weekly	Monthly	Narrow strips (≤18" width require more trimming)
Appearance	Neat, clean-cut appearance; embeds into grass naturally	Grass in fence line days after trimming	Permanent, yellow stain under fencing	Neat, clean-cut appearance; submerges over time
Longevity	Prediction of decades (successful installs since 2008)	Re-growth immediately after trimming	Re-growth after 3-4 weeks	Decades; Subject to fracturing over time
Health/Safety Concerns	None	Potential for injuries (flying dust & debris)	Health concerns (movement to decrease/eliminate cosmetic chemicals is strengthening)	None

Thank you!

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