

Westwood Golf Course

2025 Annual Maintenance Report

Executive Summary

2025 was marked by strong playing conditions, major infrastructure improvements, and responsible fiscal management. Greens remained in excellent condition, significant progress was made on the driving range renovation, and maintenance operations were completed while closely managing labor and operating expenses. Total maintenance expenditures were approximately \$898,055 compared with a revised budget of \$889,984 (101.0% of budget). Labor costs totaled approximately \$407,213 versus a budget of \$395,433 (103.0%), primarily due to overtime and staffing demands associated with renovation projects and peak-season maintenance. These investments supported improved course conditions and long-term asset value.

Facility Overview

Westwood Golf Course is an 18-hole municipal golf facility operated by the City of Norman Parks and Recreation Department. The maintenance division is responsible for all playing surfaces, irrigation infrastructure, trees, lakes, equipment maintenance, and capital improvements.

Westwood Golf Course 2025 Annual Maintenance Report

Overview

This annual report summarizes the golf course maintenance operations at Westwood Golf Course during the 2025 calendar year. The maintenance program focused on turf quality, efficient irrigation, weed control, tree management, and capital improvement projects, most notably the driving range renovation and grass bunker improvements.

Turfgrass Conditions

Throughout 2025, greens quality remained consistently high, ranging from 93% during peak summer stress periods to as high as 98% during optimal growing weather. Greens performance benefited from disciplined cultural practices, including bi-monthly sand topdressing and attentive irrigation management.

Minor heat-related blemishes were observed during summer months, but turf recovered

well as temperatures moderated. Greens entered dormancy in excellent condition and continued to perform at a high level through late fall and early winter with minimal mowing requirements.

Weed Management

The weed control program performed very effectively throughout the year. Weed pressure was largely confined to course perimeters, with successful control of goosegrass, crabgrass, dallisgrass, and spotted spurge. Continued adherence to this program has maintained clean and playable turf conditions in primary play areas.

Mowing Operations

Mowing demands increased significantly during peak growing seasons and periods of high play. Full mowing operations consumed the majority of available labor hours during these times. As growth slowed during fall and winter, mowing frequency was reduced to approximately once per week on greens.

Irrigation System Performance

The irrigation system operated efficiently and reliably throughout the year. Only minor repairs were required, and overall performance met or exceeded expectations. Proper irrigation management played a critical role in maintaining turf quality during heat stress periods and supporting renovation projects.

Tree Management

Tree trimming and dead tree removal remained an ongoing priority throughout the year. These efforts improved mowing efficiency, enhanced turf health, and contributed to improved pace of play. Tree management activities were completed as time and labor availability allowed.

Drainage and Sod Projects

Drainage improvements at the Number 7 pond were completed and prepared for sod installation, pending favorable weather conditions. Grass bunker renovations on holes 3, 14, and 16 were fully drained and prepared for sod, with final installation coordinated alongside driving range sod work.

Driving Range Renovation Project

A major focus of 2025 was the in-house driving range renovation. The project began with defining renovation boundaries and applying non-selective herbicide to remove existing vegetation. Subsequent phases included correcting irrigation deficiencies, evaluating and

improving drainage patterns, modifying topography to promote surface drainage, and planning irrigation expansion to perimeter areas.

The driving range was closed during December and January to allow uninterrupted progress. By mid-winter, drainage, irrigation, and grading objectives were being met, positioning the range for sod installation and an anticipated reopening in spring.

Acknowledgements

The ongoing success of Westwood Golf Course maintenance operations is made possible through strong leadership and collaboration. Sincere appreciation is extended to the City of Norman; Director of Parks and Recreation, Jason Olsen; Head Golf Professional, Rick Parish; administrative staff Karla Sitton and Esther Rojo; and the dedicated green staff at Westwood Golf Course. Their support and teamwork made the accomplishments of 2025 possible.

Financial Performance

2025 Maintenance Budget Summary:

- Revised Total Maintenance Budget: \$889,984
- Total Expenditures: \$898,055
- Budget Variance: -\$8,071 (101.0% utilized)

Labor:

- Revised Labor Budget: \$395,433
- Labor Expenditures: \$407,213
- Variance: -\$11,780 (103.0%)

Major operating variances included chemicals and agronomic materials associated with turf quality, irrigation improvements, and the driving range renovation. These investments were offset by savings in several operating accounts and resulted in only a modest overall budget variance.

Staffing and Operations

The maintenance operation consisted of full-time and seasonal employees performing mowing, irrigation, equipment maintenance, tree management, course setup, chemical applications, and renovation work. Staff also completed substantial in-house capital improvements, reducing outside contractor costs.

Strategic Priorities for 2026

Complete the driving range renovation and reopening, continue irrigation system improvements, maintain championship-quality greens, improve equipment reliability,

expand robotic mowing technology where practical, and continue controlling costs while preserving high-quality playing conditions.