

# GRASS GROWTH

## DURING TOWNSVILLE'S WET SEASON

### WET SEASON IS BACK IN TOWNSVILLE, WHICH IS GREAT FOR MAKING THE CITY LOOK GREEN AGAIN.

Townsville City Council maintains 3,600 hectares of grass that requires regular mowing to keep our open spaces safe, accessible, functional and presentable. Our crews also contribute to and prioritise community safety by roadside slashing, assisting with traffic and wildlife visibility.

To cover this amount of grass in the fastest and most efficient way, Council has a mowing schedule which is planned out across the community. Mowing is scheduled on a rotational basis, taking grass growth patterns and high traffic locations such as The Strand and Riverway into consideration.

Our grass maintenance process is:

#### 1. Mowing crew

This crew will go through the area with a ride on mower.

#### 2. Hand tools crew

This crew will follow afterwards to whipper snip, hedge and weed.

Sometimes it looks like we have done half the job. Don't worry, we have not forgotten you! The second crew may take a little longer at another site. We will catch up.

During the wet season (December to March), Townsville often sees torrential rain events that cause grass to grow fast. Our crews cannot mow until the ground is dry, this can cause delays to the mowing schedule as open spaces can become too wet to mow. In some areas the water can take up to six months to drain from the soil.

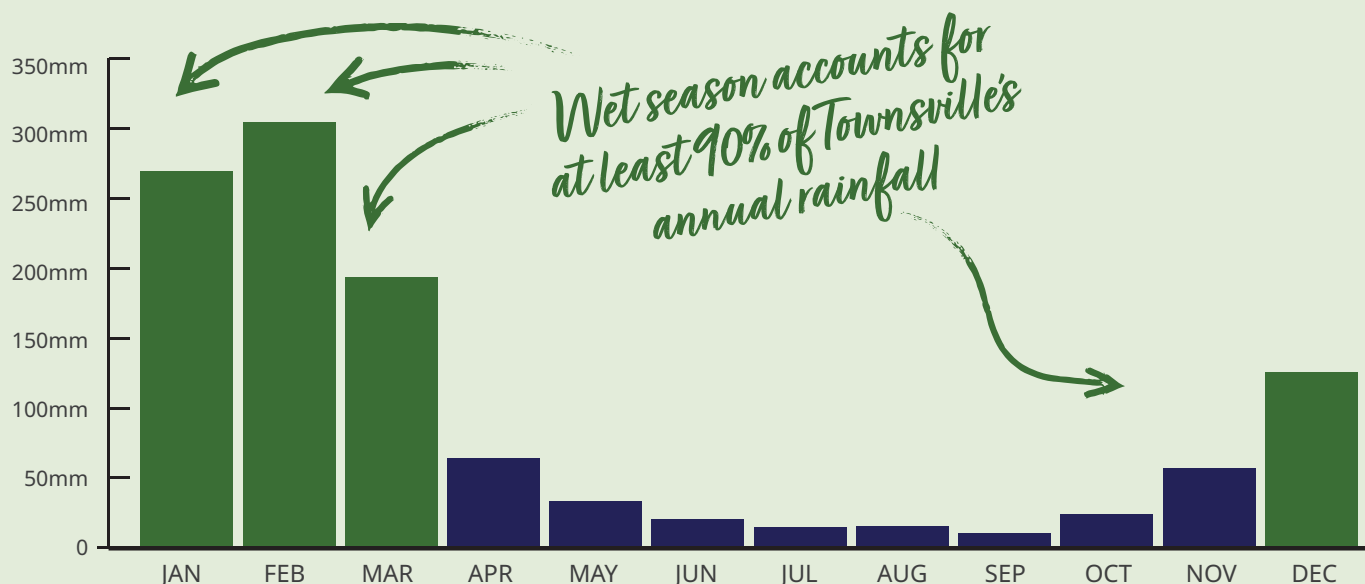
#### ⚠️ WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT OUR MOWERS:

- The heavy mowers Council use can weigh up to eight tonnes, if we mow when it is too wet they can become bogged causing costly and time-consuming damage, such as wheel ruts.
- Our ride on mowers do not have catchers, the grass clippings (which looks like clumping) will break down naturally after a couple of mows.

Our crews work hard to keep our open spaces mowed and maintained during this period, but please be aware delays are expected due to the grass and soil being too wet.

**If you have a genuine safety concern please contact Council.**

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**OUR CREWS ASSESS THE GROUND BEFORE MOWING. HOWEVER, SOMETIMES IT SEEMS LIKE THE GROUND IS DRY WHEN IT IS STILL TOO WET.**

