

## **Lawn Aeration Facts... *And why we have this service.***

- 1. Using a lawn aerator, reduces your dependency on water.** Why spend more money watering your lawn than you have to? In neighborhoods or cities where water is very expensive, nearly everyone will aerate your lawn.
- 2. Aerating encourages your roots to grow deeper.** Within two weeks of aerating, you'll notice that the holes left by the aerator start to fill up with plant roots.
- 3. Aerating holes help to absorb water.** Rather than water having to start penetrating from the surface, it can start penetrating from one to 2 ½ inches below the surface. Not only will the holes made by the aerator hold the water, but they will also help the water to sink 2 inches deeper into the soil.
- 4. It also encourages thicker turf.** As your roots grow down, your grass will grow quicker and also thicker, creating a thicker turf.
- 5. Using a lawn aerator helps build organic material in the soil.** Compacted soil just doesn't have nearly as much organic material in it.
- 6. Reduces soil compaction.** This also reduces the compaction on the roots.
- 7. Aerating your lawn can save you money.** By not having to water your lawn as often in the summer when water is the most expensive, you can save money.
- 8. Your lawn stays greener** because it doesn't need as much water to stay green, and because deeper roots have more access to nutrients.
- 9. Aerating your lawn helps out with over seeding it.** It makes it a lot easier to seed your lawn if you have holes for the seeds to fall into, and you have plugs on the surface to help them germinate.
- 10. Aerating adds a layer of top dressing to your lawn.** Yeah! Aerating your lawn is like giving it top dressing. This reason alone makes me want to aerate my lawn twice a year.
- 11. Aerating makes your lawn more durable and resistant to foot traffic.** This is one of the most important reasons why they zealously aerate lawns on golf courses, especially on the putting greens and tip off/driving areas where they get the most traffic. (I should know, I live off of a golf course!)
- 12. Aerating allows air direct access to the plant.** Air exchange can take place more readily and it can help your plants to be more healthy.
- 13. Lawn aeration helps aerobic bacteria to break down thatch in your lawn.** It does this because it allows aerobic bacteria access to the thatch layer.

- 14. Using a lawn aerator regularly can help reduce thatch** by helping your roots to grow down into the ground rather than along the surface. Most thatch is caused by superficial root growth. Once roots are trained to grow down, thatch isn't much of an issue.
- 15. Lawn aeration can reduce runoff.** If you've ever watered your lawn, only to see it all go off into the street, you know exactly what I'm talking about. When you aerate your lawn, the water goes into the ground rather than just over the top of it
- 16. Using aerators for lawns, can help to turn the soil for you.** You can't exactly till your soil up without destroying all your grass, but you can turn the soil when you aerate it.
- 17. When you aerate lawn, you pull up beneficial bacteria from under the soil** that can help break down thatch that is on top of the surface of the soil.
- 18. Lawn aeration can prevent compaction.** Clay soils tend to be a lot compacted, especially during the summer, or when average daily temperatures go above 75°. Lawn aeration can prevent this compaction from damaging your root system.
- 19. Some cities offer a cash incentive or a rebate on your watering bill** just for aerating your lawn. In Seattle, homeowners got a \$25 mail-in rebate from the city for aerating their lawns.
- 20. It makes it a lot easier for fertilizers to work their way into the soil.** Also if you plan on covering your grass with a light layer of top dressing you will have the best results if you aerate it before hand.
- 21. You should also aerate your ground before putting down new sod.** It will help it to establish itself a lot faster.
- 22. Lawn aerating can make your lawn look more attractive** than your neighbors. As long as you do the other things you need to like water, mow and fertilize on a regular basis, you can be the envy of your neighborhood.
- 23. Aerating reduces your dependency on fertilizers.** Because it can help establish more organic material in your soil, it means that the organic material will be producing fertilizer for you, and also it allows your roots to go deeper so they can have access to more of the soil that is already underneath your lawn.
- 24. Aerating increases the effectiveness of fertilizers.** Fertilizing right after you aerate your lawn is the best way for you to get good penetration. This allows the fertilizer to go where it needs to go, rather than just sitting on the surface of your grass.
- 25. Aerating, as the name implies, makes it easier for your lawn to breath.** Your lawn can more readily exchange oxygen and carbon dioxide with the environment when you aerate it.
- 26. Lawn aeration will increase the activity of microorganisms in your soil** because it will make it easier for your soil to retain moisture, and also absorb it at a deeper level.

**27. Aerating will help to prevent grubs from infiltrating and destroying your lawn.** First of all, it helps to strengthen the root system which is the first thing that get attacked by grubs, and second, it helps to break down thatch where grubs typically hide.

**28. Aerating helps to prevent lawn disease.** When water sits on top of your lawn for long periods of time, it can easily develop a lawn disease or fungus. When you aerate, you make it easier for water to penetrate rather than just sit on top of the surface of the soil and this reduces the chances of getting lawn disease.

**29. Lawn aeration is a really good workout,** especially if you're doing it with a hand aerator. But even if you use a mechanical core aerator, it is good exercise for you to do.

**30. Rapid grass growth.** For grass to grow much faster, make sure to aerate in the spring and fall.

**31. Aerating your lawn in the fall makes it a great time to over seed your lawn with Shade seed.** This will help keep long-term thinning out during the winter.

**32. Lawn aerating makes it easier for earthworms and natural predators, to proliferate** and enjoy living in your soil. If the soil gets too hard, or dries out, earthworms won't be able to do very well.

**33. When you aerate your lawn, it stimulates growth.** It thins out your lawn a little and allows the most healthy parts of your lawn to grow back the quickest.

**34. A thick lawn is more resistant to weeds.** Using a lawn aerator also helps to prevent weeds. Occasionally I read blogs where people say that aerating your lawn in the spring is going to give you weeds. I don't think I agree. If you aerate early enough in the spring, then by the time weeds grow , around a few weeks later, your lawn will be fuller and thicker and more resistant to weeds.

**35. When you aerate lawn, it helps to repair bad patches in your lawn.** If your soil is compacted, your roots will probably grow down about an inch, to an inch and a half. If your soil is aerated and loose, your roots will grow down 4 to 6 inches underneath the soil. The way the grass looks underneath the soil patterns the way it looks on top of the soil. As your roots start to grow deeper and fuller, the top of your grass will grow deeper and fuller as well.

**36. In some areas, aerating can keep your grass from going dormant during the summer or during the winter.** For instance, in Seattle, the grass went dormant every summer if you didn't aerate your lawn. This was because as soon as it stops raining, the ground got hard. By taking the time to aerate, you can prevent it from going dormant in the summer.

**37. You get a big head start with your lawn when you use a lawn aerator.** People who aerate their lawns in the fall will usually notice that about the middle of February, their lawn starts turning green. People who don't aerate their lawn are going to have to wait until the end of March or April before they start having a green lawn. By aerating in the fall, you have an extra two months of green lawn before the beginning of spring.

**38. When you aerate lawn in the early fall, will also keep your lawn greener longer.** Rather than having your grass go dormant at the end of October, it may not go dormant until the middle of December, or at all over the winter. Lawns with healthy root systems tend to do much better during the winter.

**39. Aerating helps new lawns to establish themselves faster.** In a new subdivision they often don't put down enough topsoil. By going in and aerating it and then fertilizing with a turf builder, you can have a green and established lawn 5 to 10 years faster than your neighbors.

**40. Aerating can help you to repair empty spaces in your lawn.** Go over the open areas 45 times with a lawn aerator and then over seed it heavily. The grass should come in in about three weeks. Just make sure to water it daily.

**41. Aerating makes your grass more resistance to drought.**

**42. Using a lawn aerator makes your grass more tolerant of high temperatures.**

**43. It is environmentally friendly to use an aerator.** A thicker and fuller lawn is going to produce more oxygen. As a matter of fact, a very healthy patch of 600 ft.<sup>2</sup> lawn, produces enough oxygen for a family of four!