

IS AERATION THE NEXT USEFUL JOB?

Inspect a worn area and a healthy area under similar moisture conditions. Dry soil alone can feel hard, so a single screwdriver test is not a complete diagnosis.

Choose the job from the condition, not a yearly sales package

What you find	What to investigate	A practical next step
Hard, worn soil on a regular route	Roots and soil condition compared with an unworn area.	Reduce repeated traffic and consider core aeration in a suitable recovery window.
A low spot receiving roof runoff	Where the water arrives and where it can leave.	Assess drainage; holes alone may not correct concentrated runoff.
Thin turf beneath dense shade	Actual light, roots and use of the area.	Assess whether grass belongs there before renting an aerator.
Saturated or smearing soil	Whether the ground can support equipment without rutting.	Postpone the job until conditions are suitable.
Healthy, dense turf with no clear compaction issue	What specific improvement the job is intended to produce.	Keep monitoring; an annual aeration purchase is not automatic.

If seeding is part of the work, check recent and planned herbicide labels before arranging both jobs. Aeration is not a way to cancel a product's establishment restrictions.

YOUR FIELD RECORD

Grass and intended work area

Reason aeration is needed

Soil condition and recovery season

Marked obstacles and equipment choice

Before-and-after rooting and turf photos

Use the full guide and current local advice before treatment. Print and write, or save a copy in a PDF app that supports form fields. Entries stay in your file; this worksheet does not submit them.

