

Lawn Aeration and Overseeding

 **Annual aeration and overseeding are important to keep your lawn green and healthy.**

Aeration

Over time your soil naturally becomes compacted in the upper 1 to 1-1/2 inches and needs to be relieved by **mechanical aeration**. This process removes small cores 2 to 3 inches deep into the soil, which reduces compaction and improves the air, water and nutrient exchange in the roots.

Aeration stimulates root growth, improves the uptake of fertilizer and water, reduces water runoff and puddles, and enhances the lawn's tolerance for heat and drought stress.

Overseeding

Annual overseeding helps thicken your existing lawn. This helps the lawn ward against weed and moss encroachment.

Spring and fall weather conditions are ideal for overseeding because of the warm temperatures and cool air, which allows the seeds to grow without drying out. The seeds should show shoots in about 10 days if properly cared for.

What In Harmony can do

- Aerate your lawn.
- Overseed your lawn. In Harmony uses a premium seed blend selected for your lawn's environmental conditions.

What you can do

- After the lawn is overseeded, **it is very important to water your lawn** so the seed will germinate. On warmer days, you might water it lightly twice. **Watering should be done in order to keep the seed moist, not to drown the seed.** If too much water is applied, the seed may rot. The seed

will need supplemental watering for one to two weeks, depending on weather conditions.

- Topdress bare or newly seeded areas with compost to ensure that seeds germinate and the grass gets established.
- Don't mow your lawn for 7 to 10 days following overseeding. This helps ensure the seeds will not be damaged.
- The first time you mow after overseeding, raise the mower slightly so there is less strain on the new grass and its tender root system.

What to look for

Overseeding will not green up the lawn like a fertilizer does. The shoots are very small, so take a close look when you are examining the lawn for new growth. After the turf is established, you will see an overall thickening of the lawn.

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Aeration has a number of benefits for your lawn

- Reduces soil compaction
- Improves oxygen content
- Stimulates root growth
- Improves fertilizer uptake
- Enhances water uptake
- Reduces water runoff and puddles
- Enhances heat and drought stress tolerance 

