

# Greens Aerification at Lake Tansi Golf Course



Greens aerification is the process of removing a 3 to 4 inch core of grass, thatch, roots, and soil from the green. Aerification is performed in the spring and fall and it is a very important step in managing healthy greens. Aerification relieves compaction, reduces thatch, and allows air, nutrients, and water to move through the soil.



After the cores are brought to the surface a machine called a core harvester removes the plugs from the green. The plugs are used to fill in low areas or we sometimes use the plugs to build tees.



It doesn't take long to fill the bed of this Cushman truckster.



A crew of 5 men use back pack blowers to see that all debris is removed from the green.



When the greens are completely clean, we then roll them with our greens roller (provided by the Fund Tournament). The aerifier tends to leave the greens a little bumpy and this machine is perfect for smoothing out the waves. This roller does not cause any considerable compaction to our greens but it does provide a very smooth and true putting surface.



After the roller has finished smoothing the greens we then apply a thin layer of sand. When the sand dries, we drag a brush on the greens to work the sand into the holes and the grass. The sand helps to smooth and level the putting surface and it aides in thatch reduction.

Greens aerification is an inconvenience to golfers but it is an absolute necessity. To ensure quality conditions throughout the entire year, golfers must endure a week or so of bumpy greens. Healing time after aerification can vary. The ambient and soil temperature plays a major role in determining how quickly the greens recover. The warmer the temperature, the faster they heal.