

Hints For The Handy

Tool Tips For The Yard

(NAPSA)—Whether you're among the growing class of *ruralpolitans* who've left the city behind for a home off the beaten path or you're just looking to keep your property looking its best, experts say the right tools can help.

For instance, front-mounted thatchers, which can easily attach to a tractor, help keep your lawn healthy by eliminating layers of dead grass that can accumulate over the seasons. Dead grass can keep water, fertilizer and other vital nutrients from permeating the soil.

Try these additional tips. They come from outdoor experts at John Deere and can help you choose the right power equipment to maintain land and get yard work done faster:

Tow-Behind Spreaders

These help reseed not only bare spots but the entire lay of the land. Plus, they can be used to apply fertilizer to maintain a healthy, stable lawn year-round. Just be sure to use a fertilizer that is higher in nitrogen and potassium but lower in phosphorus for best results.

Plug Aerators

These easily attach behind the tractor and are ideal for removing



Plug aerators remove plugs of soil and thatch from a lawn, helping to keep it healthy year-round.

plugs of soil and thatch from a lawn. Aeration encourages deep rooting, improves water and nutrient penetration, helps break down thatch and encourages growth of beneficial soil microorganisms. Keep in mind that it's best to aerate during cooler months to prepare your lawn for the following spring.

Front-End Loaders

These can be used on compact utility tractors for larger chores such as the development of a vegetable garden or the transfer of horse feed. John Deere front-end loaders feature Quik-Park Mounting, which allows for easier installation or removal.

For more information, visit www.johndeere.com.