

Making Old Bunkers New Again

By [Elliott Dowling](#), agronomist, Northeast Region

FEATURED



If golfers are upset with the condition of the bunkers at your course, they have probably asked how the bunkers can be improved. The answer to this question is not always simple, and varies from course to course. Before you consider an expensive renovation, evaluate your bunkers and decide what ails them. This article details steps on how bunker playability can be improved without expensive renovation efforts.

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Multimedia Content

FORE THE GOLFER



Fore The Golfer: The Cost of Course Care

Today's tight budgets are pushing superintendents to minimize maintenance costs while still providing a great experience for golfers. That's no easy task. Here are a few examples of what might be happening at your course to help manage maintenance costs and keep golf affordable.

[Watch Video](#)

100TH ANNIVERSARY



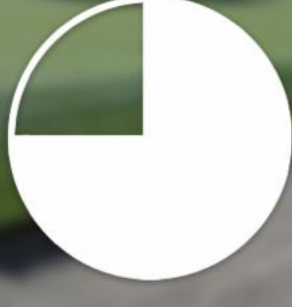
100 Years of Impact: USGA Research

From green construction and developing best management practices to supporting turfgrass breeding and environmental protection, the USGA Turfgrass and Environmental Research Program has led the way in helping courses improve playing conditions and optimize resource use.

[Watch Video](#)

Infographic

How are you using Bunker Rakes?



74% of courses do not have any rakes on the course.

Data from an @USGAGrnSection Twitter poll on August 15 with 452 responses.



15% are using a normal amount of rakes.



7% are using a reduced amount of rakes on the golf course.



4% are putting rakes on golf carts.

Research

RESEARCH



Ecosystem Services Provided by Golf Courses

With support from the USGA, the Natural Capital Project team at the University of Minnesota is working to understand the benefits golf courses provide to the community - i.e., the value of ecosystem services provided by golf courses.

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Fore The Golfer

FORE THE GOLFER



How to Rake a Bunker

Once the bunkers are raked by the maintenance staff, it's in our hands as golfers to keep bunkers looking and playing great. Here are a few things to keep in mind while raking that can help maintain the bunker and surrounding grass areas.

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Regional Updates

WEST



Golf Over 60

Golf maintenance in Alaska presents unique challenges to those brave enough to care for courses in the Land of the Midnight Sun.

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NORTHEAST



Aeration in 2020

Late August and early September are common times to aerate in the Northeast, but some courses are making changes in response to the unique and challenging 2020 season.

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CENTRAL



Minimizing Golf Cart Damage in the Rough

Are your roughs getting beat up by cart traffic? This simple traffic control system can help improve turf conditions at minimal cost, and with little or no inconvenience to golfers.

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SOUTHEAST



Spot Treatments Versus Broadcast Applications

Spot treatments can help focus efforts on problem areas, but if you're not careful they could have some unintended consequences.

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