

WINTER PEST MANAGEMENT



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...responsible solutions.

General Insect Pest and Disease Management

PLANT HEALTH CARE APPROACH

- Right plant
 - Avoid very susceptible plants when adding new plants to your landscape
- Proper care
 - A healthy plant is better equipped to tolerate insect damage and diseases
 - Avoid excessive nitrogen fertilization that encourages lush succulent growth that may increase the risk of some insect pests
 - Beneficial insects and predators help manage insect pests. Attracting and supporting them in the landscape is another key factor to managing pest problems.
 - Use the most environmentally friendly control, if needed
 - Horticulture oils, like **Summit Year-Round® Spray Oil**, can be used as a dormant oil spray when temperatures are above 40°F and on actively growing plants when temperatures are below 100°F
 - ◆ Always read and follow label directions whenever using natural, organic and synthetic products

Winter Pest Monitoring

SPONGY MOTH (FORMERLY GYPSY MOTH)

- Host plants - this insect can survive on 300 species
 - Most common on oak, aspen and birch, urban trees like crabapple and linden
- Winter
 - Manage egg masses (600+ eggs per mass) during dormant season
 - ◆ Carefully scrape off the egg masses - dump in soapy water for 2 days
 - ◆ Treat egg masses with horticulture oil when temperatures above 40°F by April
 - * Add food coloring to know what was sprayed
- Spring
 - **Sticky bands**
 - **Burlap bands** for larger caterpillars

EASTERN TENT CATERPILLAR

- Host plants - fruit trees, ash, birch, hawthorn, maple, oak, poplar and willow
- Lots of natural enemies - parasitic wasps, predators and disease
- Established healthy trees tolerant; young, stressed and fruit trees not as tolerant
- Winter
 - Manage egg masses - 150-400 eggs per mass
 - ◆ Prune out or crush
 - ◆ Eggs hatch around bud break

Summit Responsible Solutions

Protecting you, and the environment we live in.

Summit Mosquito Dunks® and Mosquito Bits® are America's favorite biological mosquito controls because they kill mosquitoes before they become biting, disease-spreading adults. The active ingredient is *Bti* (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*), a bacterium that's deadly to mosquito larvae but harmless to other living things.

Summit Mosquito Bits® can also be used to control fungus gnats on indoor plants.

Summit® Year-Round® Spray Oil is an organic, environmentally responsible way to kill insect pests on even the most sensitive plants. Summit® Year-Round® Spray Oil has no bad odor, and it can be used on garden plants and fruit trees right up to the day of harvest. Use it to kill insects on indoor and outdoor plants.

Learn More



- Spring
 - Tents form in tree crotches
 - ◆ Remove small tents by hand or larger tents with a broom or stick
 - * Wait for caterpillars to return to the nest when controlling
 - They feed early morning, early evening, nights when not too cold
- Fall webworm - tents form at end of branches and egg masses on leaves
- Forest tent caterpillar - usually cyclical - egg masses similar to Eastern tent caterpillar - no tents, but rather silken mats on trunks and branches

CANKERWORMS

- Host plants - apple, crabapple and elm preferred. Other deciduous trees, like ash, cherry, hickory, maple and oak can also be attacked.
- Usually controlled by weather, predators and parasitic insects. May experience occasional outbreaks until natural controls catch up and become effective.
- Spring and fall cankerworms finish feeding early in the season, when most trees still are still sending out leaves
 - Maples may die if defoliated 2 to 3 years in a row
 - Others and young trees may be weakened if this occurs several years in a row and become more susceptible to other insects and diseases
- Winter
 - Spring cankerworms overwinter as larvae in cells in the soil. Eggs laid in March and April (100 per cluster) under loose bark and in bark crevices.
 - Fall cankerworm overwinters as eggs in a compact cluster (100 eggs / cluster) on smaller branches
 - ◆ Larvae hatch in April - May, finish feeding, drop to soil, adults emerge in late fall and lay eggs
- Control
 - Winter
 - ◆ Remove or spray egg masses of fall cankerworm with horticulture oil
 - Spring and fall
 - ◆ Treat egg masses of spring cankerworms in early spring
 - ◆ Sticky bands low on the tree in mid March to mid May in WI for spring cankerworm and mid October to mid December for fall cankerworm

BAGWORMS

- Host plants - feed on over 50 different plant families, most common on evergreens, also found on other plants like apple, birch, elm, locust, maple, oak and willow trees
- Winter
 - Remove bags that can be reached



About Melinda

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/ radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including Can't Miss Small Space Gardening, the Midwest Gardener's Handbook, and Jackson and Perkins' Beautiful Roses Made Easy. She hosts the nationally-syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" program airing on over 115 TV and radio stations throughout the U.S. Melinda also hosts the internationally distributed Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series, including the latest Food Gardening for Everyone DVD set. She is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine, writes the twice monthly "Gardeners' Questions" newspaper column and a nationally-distributed gardening column. She appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

Visit Melinda's website,
melindamyers.com

- Early summer
 - Biorational products, like *Bt*, neem, spinosad, insecticidal soap or horticulture oil

EASTERN SPRUCE GALL & COOLEY SPRUCE GALL ADELGID

- Eastern Spruce Gall are not a native adelgid - Norway, white, red, black and Engelmann spruce
 - Galls appear below new growth
- Cooley Spruce Gall is a native adelgid - blue, Sitka, Engelmann spruce and Douglasfir
 - Galls appear at the end of branches
- Hand pick and destroy galls before August
- Late winter
 - Before bud break and temperatures above 40°F with horticulture oil
- Summer
 - Late July to mid August for Cooley Spruce Gall Adelgid
 - ◆ Insecticidal soap or horticulture oil
- Fall
 - Mid to late September for Eastern Spruce Gall Adelgid
 - ◆ Insecticidal soap or horticulture oil
- Test horticulture oil on a branch before spraying the whole tree as spruce and Douglasfir may be sensitive
- Bluish bloom on evergreens may disappear for several years after treating

HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID

- Host plants - Eastern hemlock
 - Western and mountain hemlock highly resistant
- Winter
 - Late winter, before bud break and temperatures over 40°F
- Summer
 - Horticulture oil when crawlers are active
 - Systemics

VIBURNUM LEAF BEETLE

- Host plants - many of the native viburnums
- Most resistant viburnums - Koreanspice, Judd, doublefile, leatherleaf, tea, Siebold, Dawn, David
- Natural predators that eat the larvae - lady beetle adults and larvae, lacewing larvae and spined soldier bug nymphs
- Natural predators that eat the adults - lady beetle adults and spined soldier bug adults

UPCOMING APPEARANCES & WEBINARS

Check often as more appearances and webinars continue to be added.

February 28th Webinar

*Create a Beautiful Landscape Free of
Invasive Plants*

February 29th Webinar

How to Plan a Rain Garden

March 6th Webinar

Growing Summer Bulbs in Containers

March 13th Webinar

Hydrangea Selection, Pruning & Care

March 14th Webinar

How to Select Rain Garden Plants

March 20th Webinar

*Maximize the Beauty and Your
Enjoyment in Any Small Space*

March 23rd

REALTORS Home and Garden Show
More Information

March 27th Webinar

How to Start a Garden for Beginners

- Winter
 - Remove infested twigs
 - Horticulture oil applied to egg laying sites can reduce egg hatch 75-80%
- Spring
 - Horticulture oil, soaps, Spinosad when larvae are small and predators are not present

HEMLOCK ELONGATED SCALE

- Host plants - hemlocks (fir, spruce, *Cedrus*, Douglasfir, pine and yew if infested hemlock is nearby)
- Winter
 - Horticulture oil sprayed before bud break and temperatures over 40°F
- Late spring
 - Horticulture oil when crawlers are active

OYSTER SHELL SCALE

- Host plants - over 125 species, mostly hardwoods and more common on aspen, poplar, ash, maple, willow, lilac
- Natural enemies usually control this pest
- Winter
 - Physically remove scale with plastic dish scrubber, being careful not to damage thin barked trees
 - ◆ Horticulture oil when temperatures are above 40°F
- Spring
 - Treat with horticulture oil when crawlers are active
 - Begin monitoring in mid spring, using a paper test and again in late summer in the south

MAGNOLIA SCALE

- Host plants - magnolias, including star, saucer and lily
- Honeydew and sooty mold are secondary issues
- Winter
 - Horticulture oil when temperatures are above 40°F
- Mid summer to early fall
 - Monitor for crawlers
 - Horticulture oil or insecticidal soap, repeat again 10-14 days later

PINE NEEDLE SCALE

- Host plants - pines (especially mugo in urban settings), spruce, white fir, Douglasfir and cedar
- Natural predators - lady beetles, parasitic insects
- Winter
 - Horticulture oil when temperatures are above 40°F

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- Mid spring to early summer
 - Horticulture oil or insecticidal soap when crawlers are active
- **Pine Needle and other more minor conifer scale insects**

BORERS

- Often a secondary pest of stressed trees
- Recent hot, dry weather can lead to borer problems in subsequent years
- Prevent with proper plant selection and care
- Prune out infected branches and stems if applicable
- Work with a certified arborist (treesaregood.org) if considering injections

Diseases

BLACK KNOT (FUNGUS)

- Host plants - *Prunus* species: American plum, Canadian plum, chokecherry including 'Schubert' and 'Canada Red', European plum and purple leafed plum are among the most susceptible types
 - Cherries, both ornamental and edible are less susceptible
 - Amur chokecherry, apricot and flowering almond are rarely affected
- Winter
 - Prune out galls in late winter when temperatures are below freezing
 - ◆ Make cuts 4" below the gall
- Spring
 - **Fungicide applications** usually only recommended for commercial orchards

GOLDEN CANKER (FUNGUS)

- Host plants - common on pagoda dogwood
- Prevention
 - Plant in cool, semi-shaded location
 - Remove turf under canopy and mulch soil
 - Avoid drought stress

- Winter
 - Prune infected branches 4 to 6" below the canker
 - ◆ Disinfect tools between cuts - 70% alcohol
 - ◆ Dispose of infected branches

Wildlife

VOLES

- Active year-round
- Host plants - seeds, tree and shrub bark, fleshy roots of perennials and bulbs
 - Leave trails of dead grass in the lawn
- Repair lawn damage
- Prevent damage to trees and shrubs
 - Surround susceptible plants with cylinder of hardware cloth sunk 4 to 6" into the soil
 - **Plantskydd** organic animal repellent - rain and snow resistant

MOLES

- Hibernate in winter
- More of a problem in sandy, well-drained soils
- Trapping is difficult

RABBITS & DEER

- Host plants - just about anything if populations are high and food is limited
- Fencing
 - 4' high and tight to the ground for rabbits
 - 5 to 6' around small gardens for deer, 7 to 9' for larger gardens
 - Make sure the fencing is tight to the ground and gates are secure
- Scare tactics not usually effective as animals have adapted to us
- Repellents
 - Apply before they start feeding, reapply as needed
 - **Plantskydd** is organic, rain and snow resistant

GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE WEBINAR RECORDING

- Enter password: \$uq69VR0



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Melinda's Garden Moment VIDEO TIPS

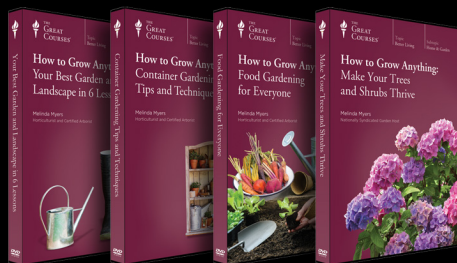
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLISTS & MORE

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