

Commercial Horticulture

October 6, 2023

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IPMnet
Integrated Pest
Management for
Commercial Horticulture
extension.umd.edu/ipm

If you work for a commercial horticultural business in the area, you can report insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems (**include location and insect stage**) found in the landscape or nursery to sgill@umd.edu

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:

Stanton Gill, Extension Specialist, IPM and Entomology for Nursery, Greenhouse and Managed Landscapes, sgill@umd.edu. 410-868-9400 (cell)

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Disease Information: Karen Rane (Plant Pathologist), David Clement (Extension Specialist) and Fereshteh Shahoveisi (Turf Pathologist)

Weed of the Week: Chuck Schuster (Retired Extension Educator), Kelly Nichols, Nathan Glenn, and Mark Townsend (UME Extension Educators)

Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)

Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)

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Acorn City This Fall of 2023

Stanton Gill

We are getting a lot of emails this week asking what can your customers do about the excessive number of acorns dropping this late summer/fall. Landscapers are reporting people are complaining the acorns drop on their roofs all night keeping them awake. Worst of all, they are dropping on their expensive autos and people are worrying about chips in their car paint.



Every 3 years we see large sets of acorns on oaks with a resulting large number of nuts dropping in October. There is not much you can do to help relieve your customers from their dilemma. If they have a garage - park the valuable cars in there. The Junkers can remain outdoors. There are many acorns dropping onto sidewalks making walking in some areas slightly precarious. Sweeping the acorns aside each morning may be a good aerobic exercise for many. At least the acorns provide something new about which to complain, but life will go on and the acorn season will pass soon enough.

Boxtree Moth Monitoring

From Jaime Tsambikos, Maryland Department of Agriculture:

Nursery inspectors from the Central and Eastern Chapters of the Horticultural Inspection Society met up in Niagara County, New York in early October for a meeting. The main focus was the boxtree moth situation in New York. Field visits were made to local nurseries and a cemetery. This photo shows a caterpillar and pupa. Early trapping was the takeaway message. Please remember this pest is under federal quarantine and should be reported to the state regulatory authority.



**Boxtree moth larvae found in New York.
Photo: Jaime Tsambikos, MDA**

White Peach Scale

We received a peach branch sample from the Eastern Shore of Maryland early this week. The sample was covered in white peach scale. There were many adult males present, so they are now mating with females. Gravid females will overwinter. It is the third generation.



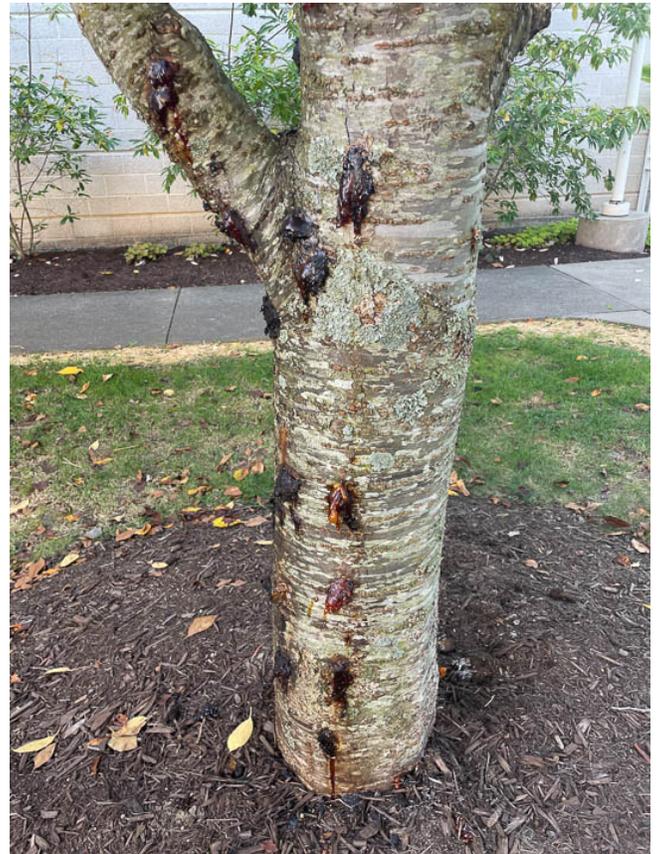
**Many orange-bodied, winged adult males (adult females are wingless) of white peach scale were active on this peach tree sample.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME**

Peachtree Borer in Ornamental Cherry Trees

By: Stanton Gill

This week while presenting at the MAC-ISA conference in Morgantown, West Virginia, I wandered out front of the Marriott Hotel lobby to watch arborists explain rope techniques when ascending trees. I noticed an ornamental cherry tree in front of the building with globs of amber-colored sap jelling on the trunk of the tree. The tree had been attacked by the larval stage of the clearwing moth borer called peachtree borer. The tree obviously was under stress from the extended drought conditions this summer making it susceptible to multiple borer sites establishing on the trunk.

There is not much to do this fall, but next summer a protective application of bifenthrin or permethrin on the trunk of the tree will help prevent a re-infestation by the next generation of clearwing borers in 2024.



**The sap oozing from the trunk of this ornamental cherry is the result of a peachtree borer infestation.
Photos: Stanton Gill, UME**

Bedbugs Rise Up In France?

By: Stanton Gill

Bedbugs have come roaring back in France. The French government has vowed action to “reassure and protect” the public as its capital Paris reports a “widespread” rise in bedbugs.

French Transport Minister Clement Beaune he would “bring together transport operators next week” to “undertake further action” to “reassure and protect” the public from the reported surge in the numbers of the blood-sucking insect. The announcement comes as calls for government action from Paris officials and trade unions mount after several videos of bedbugs spotted in public transport and other locations such as cinemas have surfaced on social media. Don’t get too smug thinking we do not have bed bug problems in the USA - we do.

Recent Reports of Spotted Lanternflies (SLF)

Matt Tovey, The Davey Tree Expert Company, found spotted lanternfly just outside of Charlottesville, VA. Matt noted it was the first sighting he has seen in that area.

Trudy Haselhuhn, Retired - Gallaudet University, found two spotted lanternflies on her back deck in New Market.

Rob Gimpel, Architect of the Capitol, reported that an adult SLF was found at the Library of Congress on October 2. Rob notes that "to the best of my knowledge, they have only been spotted in northern DC so far."

Brian Goins, Advantage Lawns LLC, found adults in a neighborhood in Severn.

Christian Melendez, Pogo Tree Experts, found a lanternfly in upper Brookville close to the Howard County Line.



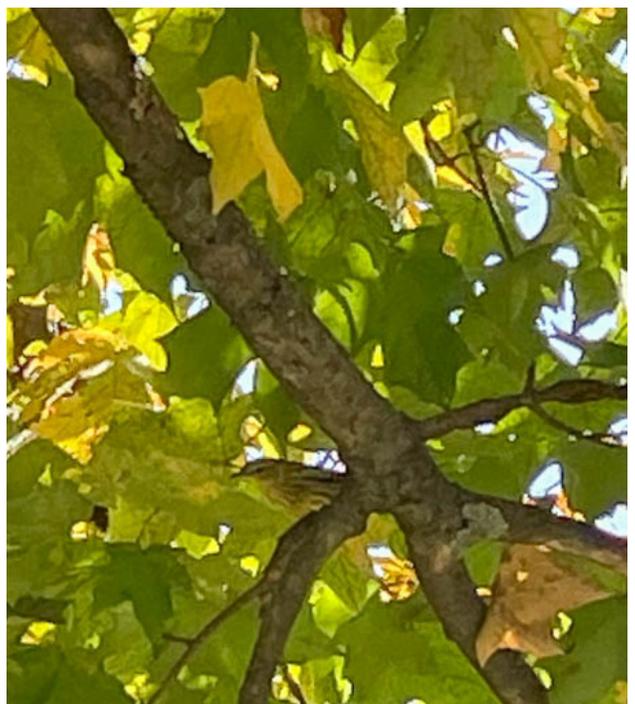
**Adult spotted lanternfly activity in Charlottesville, VA this month.
Matt Tovey, The Davey Tree Expert Company**



**Spotted lanternflies are also being found in Frederick County this week.
Photo: Trudy Haselhuhn**

Birds Feeding on Aphids

Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts, found an aphid infested sugar maple in Ellicott City that he noted "had some serious bird activity feeding on the aphids". Marty noted that the birds were magnolia warblers (bird ID by Joe Hadaway) and were flitting all over it getting a meal.



**Magnolia warblers were feeding on aphids on a sugar maple.
Photo: Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts**

Boxwood Mites

Luke Gustafson, The Davey Tree Expert Company, has reported he has been seeing a fair amount of mites on boxwoods over the the past few weeks. Luke noted, "Boxwoods that are otherwise stressed, including those with wet feet, are of course much more likely to have them." There is a major cool front coming in the next week, so the boxwood mite activity should decrease significantly. The majority of damage occurs in the spring, but there are multiple generations, so some damage does occur in the summer. Boxwood mites overwinter in the egg stage. You can use a 2-3% horticultural application for the eggs in November.



Look for yellow stippling damage on boxwood foliage that is caused by boxwood mites.

Photo: Luke Gustafson, The Davey Tree Expert Co.

White Grubs in Turf

Scarab beetle grubs continue to damage turf this month. Mark Schlossberg, ProLawn Plus, Inc., found a lot of grub damage in several Owings Mills lawns this week.



Heavy white grub beetle damage in turf areas.
Photos: Mark Schlossberg, ProLawn Plus, Inc.

Oak Decline Report

Earl "Bud" Reaves Jr., Anne Arundel County Forester, sent a link to a report he wrote earlier this year on oak decline in Anne Arundel County. He noted that "It's based on observations made over three years. It is available at <https://www.aacounty.org/inspections-and-permits/forestry/oak-decline>. The full report can be seen by clicking on the March 2023 report link.

Porcelain Berry Comments

In response to last week's request about who is seeing problems with porcelain berry, we received the following comments:

Scott Guiser, PA Extension Educator, Retired is reporting that there is a major problem with porcelain berry spread in Doylestown, PA.

Bernie Mihm, Fine Earth Landscape, is reporting that both porcelain berry and Asian bittersweet "seem to be growing much faster over the last 5 to 10 years than they did previously. Vines vines vines... they are enveloping everything."

Katie Grant reports: "Here in Worcester Co, it is just as much of a problem as it looks to be in Rockville. I remove it from customers' landscapes frequently, but on unattended lots and highway/woodland edges it runs as rampant as the Chinese wisteria. I do happen to see more of it in Berlin and Snow Hill (mid to southern county) than Ocean Pines, Ocean City and Bishopville (northern county)."

Grasses and Pollens for Bees

Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts, found this honey bee visiting grass flowers for pollen. Even though grasses are wind-pollinated, they provide a source of food for pollinating insects.



Grasses are a source of pollen for bees.
Photo: Marty Adams, Bartlett Tree Experts

Crapemyrtle Bark Scale

By: Sheena O'Donnell, UME

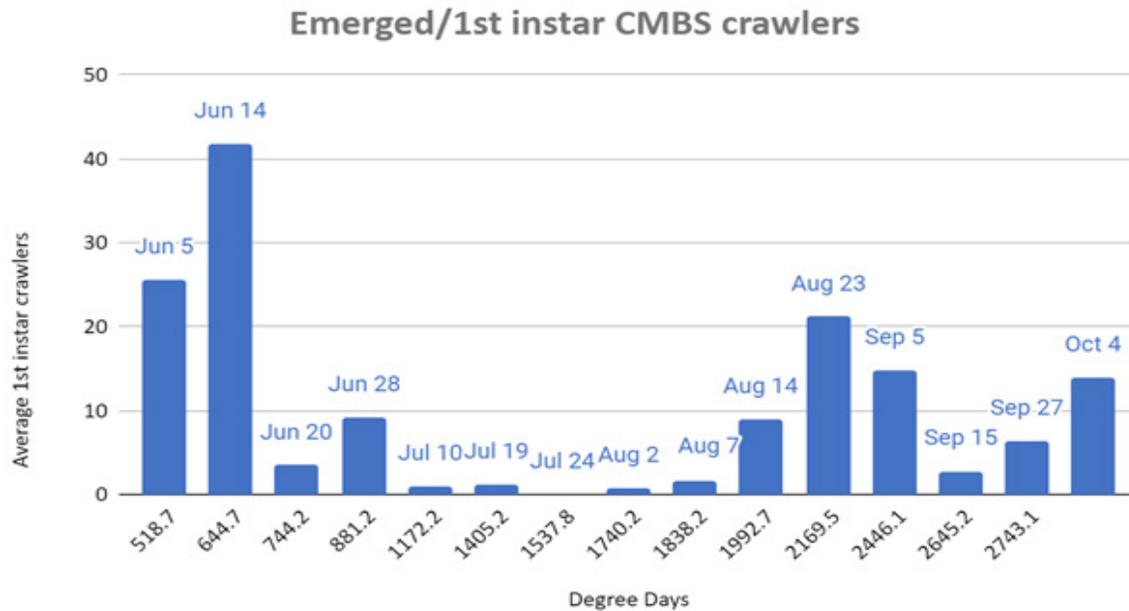
We have a group of small crape myrtles at the research center which have severe infestations of crapemyrtle bark scale. We are monitoring to determine their life cycle and crawler emergence in Maryland. This year in Ellicott City, there was a large peak in mid-June at about 645 DD and a few smaller peaks after that time. Crawlers are very small and pink, and they tend to settle in small crevices like underneath exfoliating bark or in the layers of seed heads after bloom. I also have not found them on newer tender growth except the seed pods, mostly older growth that has started



There was a high population of crapemyrtle bark scale when monitored on October 4.

Photo: Sheena O'Donnell, UME

to become woody. The best time for control would be during that first large peak at 645 DD, but it seems like there may end up being a later opportunity here in Maryland as there was another sizable peak in late August.



Crawler activity and degree day readings. The DD reading for October 4 is 3796.

Beneficial of the Week

By: Paula Shrewsbury

Florida predatory stink bug

Historically, the Florida predatory stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae), was known to occur in Florida and warmer southeastern states. In 2012, there were 2 confirmed sightings of *Euthyrhynchus floridanus* in MD. Since then, there have been numerous reports of *Euthyrhynchus* in MD. For example, nymphs of *Euthyrhynchus* were reported in last week's IPM Alert, I received images of adults from two other people who have seen them this week, and on the Maryland Biodiversity Project website there are images from over 17 different sightings since 2012. *Euthyrhynchus* is likely expanding its range, a consequence of global warming that has been documented for multiple insect species.

Adult *Euthyrhynchus* have the typical stink bug or shield shape to their bodies and are about 12-17 mm (approx. ½ to ¾") in length. The bodies are black with 3 orange-red marks on each point of their scutellum (the triangular section between the wings of the bug). Early instar nymphs are red in color, and mid-late instar nymphs are red and black. *Euthyrhynchus* lays clusters of 20-90 barrel-shaped eggs at a time, and are brown in color and have a ring of small spines circling the operculum (top rim of the egg). They overwinter as adults in wood piles and other protected locations. Eggs hatch in spring and there are two generations per year.



Egg mass of the Florida predatory stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus*. Note the barrel shape with a circle of spines around the operculum (ring at the tip of the "barrel").

Photo: L.J. Buss, UFL

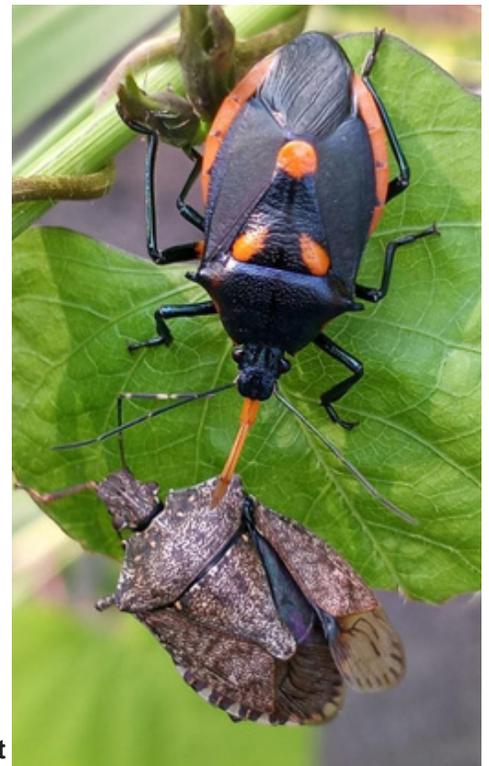
Euthyrhynchus is a predatory stink bug that is known to feed on a diverse range of soft-bodied prey items such as caterpillars, beetle larvae and adults, plant hoppers, other stink bugs (see image), earwigs (see image), crickets, dragonflies and more. Many of which are pest insects in our ornamental systems. *Euthyrhynchus* are often found foraging on the bark of trees and have a strong tendency to aggregate. Aggregations of *Euthyrhynchus*, especially early nymphal stages, may feed together on larger insect prey. They are considered beneficial stink bugs because many of the prey they attack are pests in ornamental and other plant systems. Although *Euthyrhynchus* alone does not likely make a huge impact on the biological control of pest insects, they are one of many generalist natural enemies that, as a complex, can provide an impactful biological control service of pest insects.



A fifth instar nymph (last immature stage) of the Florida predatory stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus*. Note the characteristic black wing buds (not fully developed wings).
Photo: L.J. Buss, UFL



Nymphs, likely 3rd or 4th instar, of Florida predatory stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus*, feeding as a group on an earwig.
Photo: A. Ditro, NC



Florida predatory stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus*, adult with its beak impaled into a brown marmorated stink bug.
Photo: Wayne Longbottom, MD Biodiversity Project

Weed of the Week

By: Nathan Glenn, UME-Howard County

Curly dock, *Rumex crispus*, is a member of the buckwheat family and is native to Europe and now reported as an agricultural weed on all continents. Curly dock is one of the first weeds to take over disturbed or bare soil. It is a weed found in landscapes throughout the United States. In unmanaged areas, curly dock can grow to five feet in height and have substantially larger leaves than otherwise normally observed. This perennial weed

has a large thick taproot that is yellowish orange in color, which allows it to survive under drought stress conditions when other plants in the landscape are not. Broadleaf dock is found in similar areas but it is not as widely distributed as curly dock.

Curly dock can be identified through a dichotomous key as a dicot broadleaf species with a basal rosette. Its leaves and stem are unarmed (without spines/thorns) and simple with wavy but entire margins. It does not grow in a mat-forming habit and is also not vine like. Elongating flowering stems are smooth, ridged, branched toward the top with enlarged nodes and alternating leaves. Small greenish flowers are found in clusters at the top of the main stem, which produce flattened brown seedpods. Broadleaf dock can be identified in the same manner, but it is differentiated from curly dock because its leaves have heart-shaped lobes at their base and are wider with less wavy margins than curly dock.



Curly dock rosette
Photo courtesy of VT Weed Identification Guide

To control curly or broadleaf dock, first make sure to provide and maintain the best opportunity for the desirable species to establish. If you choose to also treat the docks with chemicals, spot treat weeds with a liquid, selective, post emergent, broadleaf weed killer applied when weeds are actively growing. Look for a product with one or more of the following active ingredients: 2, 4-D, MCPP (mecoprop), Dicamba*, or Triclopyr.



Large foliage of curly dock.
Photo courtesy of Cornell Univ. Weed Identification Guide

*Do not spray herbicides containing dicamba over the root zone of trees and shrubs. Roots can absorb the product possibly causing plant damage. Refer to the product label for precautions.

<https://extension.umd.edu/resource/dock>

Plant of the Week

By: Ginny Rosenkranz

Callicarpa americana is also called American beautyberry. From June – August, American beautyberry is covered with tiny lavender pink flowers which are arranged in dense clusters around the stems at each leaf. The flowers mature in October to produce beautiful bright round fruits that shine in violet, purple, and magenta. There are also pink berried (*Callicarpa americana* ‘Welch’s Pink’ and white berried forms (*Callicarpa americana* ‘Alba’, *Callicarpa americana* var. *lactea*, *Callicarpa americana* ‘Russell Montgomery’) available. The berries can last through the winter and become an excellent source of food for songbirds and small mammals. These native deciduous plants grow 3-6 feet tall and wide, thriving in full sun (for best flowering/

berries) and partial shade. They like to grow in organic, evenly moist, well drained soils, and once established are tolerant of some drought. The arching branches grow in an open growth habit with their serrated margined leaves arranged in an opposite fashion. The leaves produce a chemical that can repel fire ants, mosquitoes, and ticks when crushed. In late winter, the old canes or branches can be removed at the ground to encourage new growth, because that is where the flowers and berries grow. The leaves will drop in the autumn to show off the bright beautiful berries, and are excellent for cutting. American beautyberry is cold hardy in USDA zones 6-12, but do better in the warmer areas that include the tropical islands of Bahamas, Bermuda, Cuba and other Western Indies islands. Plants can be planted as a backdrop for shrub borders, massed plantings, naturalized areas, butterfly, pollinator, native and winter gardens. There are no serious pests.



American beautyberry with fruit starting to show color.
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME



American beautyberry with brightly colored fruit.
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Degree Days (as of October 4)

Abingdon (C1620)	3607
Annapolis Naval Academy (KNAK)	3947
Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	3995
College Park (KCGS)	3804
Dulles Airport (KIAD)	3883
Ft. Belvoir, VA (KDA)	3692
Frederick (KFDK)	3687
Gaithersburg (KGAI)	3505
Gambrils (F2488, near Bowie)	3744
Greater Cumberland Reg (KCBE)	3293
Perry Hall (C0608)	3514
Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)	2974
Natl Arboretum/Reagan Natl (KDCA)	4343
Salisbury/Ocean City (KSBY)	3922
St. Mary's City (Patuxent NRB KNHK)	4410
Westminster (KDMW)	3982

Important Note: We are using the [Online Phenology and Degree-Day Models](#) site. Use the following information to calculate GDD for your site: Select your location from the map Model Category: All models Select Degree-day calculator Thresholds in: Fahrenheit °F Lower: 50 Upper: 95 Calculation type: simple average/growing dds Start: Jan 1

Pest Predictive Calendar “Predictions”

By: Nancy Harding and Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

In the Maryland area, the accumulated growing degree days (DD) this week range from about **2974 DD** (Martinsburg, WV) to **4410 DD** (St. Mary's City). The [Pest Predictive Calendar](#) tells us when susceptible stages of pest insects are active based on their DD. Therefore, this week you should be monitoring for the following pests. The estimated start degree days of the targeted life stage are in parentheses.

White prunicola scale – egg hatch / crawler 3rd gen (**3238 DD**)

Banded Ash clearwing borer – adult emergence (**3357 DD**)

Tuliptree scale – egg hatch / crawler (**3472 DD**)

See the [Pest Predictive Calendar](#) for more information on DD and plant phenological indicators (PPI) to help you better monitor and manage these pests.

Conferences: Go to the [IPMnet Conference Page](#) for links and details on these programs.

October 11, 2023

FALCAN Truck and Trailer Seminar

Location: Urbana Fire Hall, Urbana, MD

[Details and Registration Info](#)

December 8, 2023

Advanced IPM Conference

Location: Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD

Details coming in late October

December 12, 2023

Maryland Turfgrass Council Conference and Tradeshow

Location: Turf Valley Country Club, Ellicott City, MD

2024 Advanced Landscape IPM PHC Short Course

This is a recertification short course for arborists, landscapers, IPM consultants, horticulturalists, professional gardeners, and others responsible for urban plant management. The course lectures will be held over four days at the University of Maryland, College Park, MD. In addition, there will be a hands-on lab following lecture (available to a limited number of course attendees).

Coordinators: Drs. Paula Shrewsbury and Mike Raupp, Dept. of Entomology, University of Maryland

Lecture dates: Monday, January 8 - Thursday, January 11, 2024 from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Lab dates: Monday, January 8 - Thursday, January 11, 2024 (space limited) from 3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

Course and registration information: <https://landscapeipmphc.weebly.com/>

Questions contact: Amy Yaich, 301-405-3911, umdentomology@umd.edu

January 10-12, 2024

MANTS

Location: Baltimore Convention Center

January 23 and 24, 2024

Maryland Arborists' Association Conference

Location: Howard Community College, Columbia, MD

January 26, 2024

FALCAN Conference

Location: Frederick Community College, Frederick, MD

February 8, 2024

25th Anniversary - Manor View Farm & The Perennial Farm Education Seminar

Location: Valley Mansion, Cockeysville MD

Speakers: John Stanley (Green Industry International Business Consultant), Vinnie Simone (Planting Fields Arboretum, NY), Janet Draper (Smithsonian Gardens) & Stanton Gill (UMD Extension)

Registration information available soon.

February 14, 2024

Eastern Shore Pest Management Conference

Location: Wicomico Civic Center, Salisbury, MD

Information and Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2024-eastern-shore-pest-management-conference-tickets-726283502507?aff=oddtcreator>

February 15 and 16, 2024

Chesapeake Green Horticulture Conference

Location: Maritime Institute, Linthicum Heights, MD

February 29 and March 1, 2024

Biological Control Conference for Greenhouses, Nurseries, and Landscapes

Location: Central Maryland Research and Education Center, Ellicott City, MD **December 12, 2023**

Maryland Turfgrass Council Conference and Tradeshow

Location: Turf Valley Country Club, Ellicott City, MD

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