Welcome to our new newsletter for current issues in the landscape and garden. This newsletter is aimed at the home horticulture/master gardener audience. Mary Kay Malinoski and Dave Clement are coordinating it and please send any contributions to us.

Weeds, weeds everywhere!

Here is a gallery of weeds (in no particular order) that are in lawns, landscapes, and gardens.

Annual bluegrass

Lesser celandine has yellow flowers when it first comes out in the spring

Broadleaf plantain

Chickweed in flower
Creeping buttercup

Deadnettle

Ground ivy or creeping charlie

Oxalis or yellow woodsorrel

Common groundsel

Creeping speedwell or creeping veronica

6/12/2014
The lingering effects of a tough winter are still out there.

Leylands are still suffering from cold injury. Prune out dead branches and watch for regrowth. Some trees have died. Consider replacement trees such as spruce.

Insects and Other Pests by Mary Kay Malinoski, Extension Specialist, Home and Garden Information Center

Four-lined plant bug damage is evident on many herbaceous plants. The bugs are basically done feeding for the year and the plants will outgrow the damage. A nymph in the photo is feeding on thistle and the damage is evident as spots.
Stay vigilant about emerald ash borer! Those purple traps are for surveying for this very destructive invasive pest.

Emerald ash borer adults are flying now. Keep an eye out for them around your ash trees and report them if you see them, especially on the Eastern shore of Maryland. Call 1-800-342-2507. A fresh exit hole is visible in the photo on the right.

Japanese Cedar Longhorned Beetle

Japanese cedar longhorned beetle larvae are feeding under the bark now. Keep and eye out for fading branches, dieback and exit holes. Prune out any damaged or dead branches and dispose of them.

Oval exit hole in main branch of Arborvitae
Carpenter bees have been busy!

Male with a white spot on his face defending his territory. He may look aggressive, but can’t sting.

Cottony Camellia Scale:

**Cottony camellia scale** has been very bad especially on blue holly. Check for newly hatched or settled crawlers on stems and leaves. Active crawlers can be detected using double stick tape. Control should be considered after the eggs have hatched. A summer rate of oil will protect beneficials. Be sure to thoroughly cover the plant. Do not spray when it is hot and humid. Try for a cool morning to reduce the risk of damage from the oil spray.
Spotted lady beetle

Twice-stabbed lady beetle feeding on cottony camellia scale

Pennsylvania leatherwing is a soldier beetle and feeds on eggs and larvae of other insects

Syrphid fly larva on a rose looking for aphids

Momma wolf spider carrying her egg case. Do not hurt them when working in your garden. They may look fearsome, but are good predators. They really like stink bugs and that is reason enough not to kill them!
Reminder: Watch for Ticks! By Nancy Bosold, Extension Educator, Penn State Extension, Berks County, PA

If you are in an area of the Mid-Atlantic where ticks and Lyme disease are a way of life, it’s already time to be on alert. Blacklegged ticks *Ixodes scapularis* (AKA “deer ticks”) are the vector for Lyme disease.

The tick has a two year life-cycle. Adults that are active now will feed and mate on deer, dogs, humans, or other animals. Eggs are laid on the ground where they hatch in early summer. The larva must feed (usually on white footed mice, birds, squirrels or other small animals) in order to grow and molt into the nymph. If the larva feeds on an infected host, it can transmit the Lyme disease spirochete to hosts it feeds on during later life stages. This summer’s larvae will become nymphs next spring. In late spring and summer of the second year, nymphs feed and have another chance to become infected. During the fall of the second year nymphs molt into adults. Adult females can feed and lay eggs in fall or very early the next spring.

It takes about 3-5 days for the tick to feed until engorged. It takes about 24-36 hours for an infected tick to transmit the Lyme disease spirochete. So the longer the tick remains attached to you, the higher the chances are for infection. White footed mice are a major host and source of infection for blacklegged ticks. Mouse habitat is tick habitat. Cover exposed skin with light-colored clothing, use repellents, and check yourself often throughout the day and especially after coming in from outdoors. Check with your vet about ways to protect your pets.
Photo: adult female blacklegged ticks. Unengorged female encircled by partially engorged females. (Photo: James Occi, MA, MS). From the Lyme Disease Association website.


Diseases by David Clement, Extension Specialist, Home and Garden Information Center.

Virus-like symptoms in Columbine. Notice the yellow and green mottling in the leaves. There is no chemical control. Remove infected plants.
Anthracnose diseases on shade trees

Oak anthracnose

Beech anthracnose

Beech anthracnose, *Apiognomonia errabunda* is similar to oak anthracnose, *Apiognomonia quercina*.

White oaks are the most susceptible of the oak species to this leaf blotching disease. Twig infections occur but are not significant except as sources of overwintering fungal inoculum from year to year. Leaves and shoots are infected during cool, wet spring conditions causing leaf blotches that often are strictly delimited by leaf veins. Eventually, lesions become a papery tan color and some leaf shriveling occurs. Multiple cycles of infection can occur. Just as leaves near maturity, lesion size lessens, and once leaves mature they become fully resistant by early to mid-summer.

Rust Diseases

Rust on blackberry

Mayapple rust
Orange rust on blackberry, *Arthuriomyces peckianus* and *Gymnoconia nitens*

The disease occurs only on blackberries, black raspberries, dewberries, and possibly purple raspberries. The two fungi that cause the disease are very similar. The disease is not known to affect red raspberries. Once a plant is infected by orange rust, it is infected for life. Later in the season infected plants will not show the orange spores, but all the plants are systemically infected and will appear to be bushy and spindly. They also will produce little or no fruit. As a result in the spring the canes emerging from the crown will show rust the following year. The fungus overwinters as systemic, perennial mycelium within the host.

May apple rust, *Puccinia podophylli* (*Allodus podophylli*)

Yellow or light green spots appear on the upper leaf surfaces. The lower leaf surfaces have orange colored spores and pustules below each light green spot. Sometimes, leaves pucker where infections occur. The disease may even cause some leaf drop. Still, the plant seems to tolerate the disease without permanent injury.

**Herbicide Damage – be careful when controlling weeds!**

Herbicide damage on blackberry. Note cupping on leaves.

Glyphosate damage, notice distorted new growth.

Clement, UMD

6/12/2014
Rose rosette symptoms on multiflora rose. The disease is active right now on many rose cultivars. Prune out infected branches or remove plants.

If you are in the neighborhood, check out the new “Grass Roots” exhibit opening mid-June at the United States National Arboretum. For more information visit their Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/NTFGrass Roots Initiative](http://www.facebook.com/NTFGrass Roots Initiative)

**Rhododendron ‘Roseum Elegans’ – Ginny Rosenkranz, Extension Educator, University of Maryland**

Rhododendron ‘Roseum Elegans’ is a beautiful evergreen shrub that grows 6-8 feet tall and is cold hardy from USDA zone 4-8. The evergreen leaves are glossy dark olive green but the main attraction is the 20 large flowers that form a bouquet or truss that cover the plant from top to bottom. The flowers themselves are funnel shaped and about 2-3 inches across, clear rose lavender in color with a few reddish brown spots. As the flowers mature they fade to a soft pink and can last up to 2 weeks. Like most of the larger Rhododendrons, the ‘Roseum Elegans’ blooms after azalea in late spring to early summer. The growth habit is dense and spreading and the plant is very tolerant of cold temperatures, heat and humidity. ‘Roseum Elegans’ should be planted in a shady or woodland setting with filtered light and out of direct wind. They prefer to grow in moist but well drained acidic soils that are high in organic matter with at least 1-2 inches of mulch to retain moisture. During periods of drought, the Rhododendrons, with their shallow root systems, need to be watered at least once a week with soaker hoses. Providing adequate water during the growing season and especially in very hot weather will decrease the slow decline that older Rhododendrons are often subject to. Disease problems include root rot, blight and dieback and insect pests include lace bug, mites, scale and borers.
One last thing.....

Don’t forget to plant some butterfly food. Here is a parsleyworm caterpillar munching away on bronze fennel.

Please send all submissions, including photos to Mary Kay Malinoski, mkmal@umd.edu or to David L. Clement, clement@umd.edu. Thanks and please contribute!

The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression.