



PRESTWICK
HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION

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PRESTWICK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NEIGHBOR NEWS



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FALL GARDEN TIP

The following is a press release issued by Candice Miller of the University of Illinois Extension office. Miller is a horticulture educator and can be reached at mille116@illinois.edu or 815-732-2191.

Late summer and fall can bring large populations of insects flocking to the garden from nearby fields, said a University of Illinois Extension horticulture educator.



"Although some of these insects may be considered a nuisance, you should welcome them in your garden," explained Candice Miller. "For example, a lady beetle may eat its weight in aphids every day as a larva and consume as many as 50 aphids per day as an adult."

Lady beetles are oval, convex, and about one-fourth of an inch long. They range in color from tan to orange to red and usually have several black spots on the wing covers.

"What makes lady beetles a nuisance is that as fall

// Avoid this invasion by caulking or sealing cracks and crevices in your home, // Miller said.

approaches, the adult beetles leave their summer feeding sites to look for protected places to spend the winter," Miller said. "Unfortunately, this means that flocks of lady beetles try to enter our homes in September and October."

Lady beetles work their way into buildings through cracks and crevices. Lady beetles are attracted to illuminated surfaces, so they tend to congregate on the sides of buildings that are illuminated by afternoon sun. Buildings shaded from afternoon sun are less likely to attract them.

"If beetles get in, remove them by sweeping or vacuuming and release them outdoors in a garden away from your house. Do not kill the beetles because once crushed, the beetles will emit a foul odor and leave a stain."

Another insect that is beneficial in the garden is the minute pirate bug, which is about one-eighth of an inch long, oval to triangular in shape, flattened, and black with whitish markings on the back. Using their piercing, sucking mouthparts, they take body fluids from insect eggs, spider mites, and small insects such as aphids, thrips, and leafhoppers. They can consume as many as 30 spider mites per day, a great benefit to the garden.

Unfortunately, said Miller, their bite is surprisingly painful.

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Please send us your email address for our database! Email us at janolting@aol.com.



Please help the association welcome the following homeowners to our beautiful community:

Richard and Samantha Crothers, 500 Aberdeen
Brian Knopp, 541 Aberdeen
Tom and Stephanie Phelan, 562 I Aberdeen
Travis and Hannah Rogers, 685 Golf Club Lane
Matt and Renata Sebuck, 524 Aberdeen
Jennifer Shubart and Eric Zielinski, 628 Prestwick

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CARE AND REMOVAL OF TREES

One of the wonderful things about Prestwick is the mature tree canopy that makes our neighborhood attractive and unique. While from time to time, trees do become diseased or require trimming, removal of healthy, mature trees is discouraged. In fact, the Village of Frankfort has an ordinance (Section 158) governing tree care and removal. In particular, the PHA board wanted to let residents know about:

“Dead or diseased tree removal on private property. The Village shall have the right to cause the removal of any dead or diseased trees on private property within the Village, when such trees constitute a hazard to life and property, or harbor insects or disease which constitute a potential threat to other trees within the Village. The Village Tree Board will notify in writing the owners of such trees. Removal shall be done by said owners at their own expense within sixty days (60) after the date of the service of notice. In the event of failure of the owners to comply with such provisions, the Village shall have the authority to remove such trees and charge the cost of removal to the property owner.”

Also, “The branches of deciduous trees and shrubs may be selectively thinned by up to one-third (1/3) in accordance with good horticultural practice; however, in no case shall trimming result in reducing the overall size of the plant below that specified on the approved landscape plan.”

Finally, “Failure to maintain required landscapes in good health and neat appearance is subject to the penalties enumerated in this Ordinance and subject to other penalties as may be provided by law. Penalty see §158.99”

You can find all of the village ordinances online at www.VillageOfFrankfort.com

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FALL GARDEN TIP

“According to researchers, the reason they bite is still a bit of a mystery,” she said. “However, it is known that they bite when it is warm out, and they usually bite people who are perspiring slightly. They do not take blood or inject any saliva, so in most cases, their bite is not particularly dangerous.”

Miller concluded, “Although these two pests may be a slight nuisance, in my opinion, the benefits they bring to our gardens really outweigh the slight nuisance.”

KORMAN'S LANDSCAPE CORNER

What happened to the Impatiens? Impatiens have been a favorite annual for decades. They provide easy color in tough, shady spots. Until recently they have been relatively disease free in our gardens. You may have noticed that we pulled the Impatiens from the Aberdeen entrance early this season. That's because a fungal disease known as Impatiens Downy Mildew arrived in Frankfort this year. Impatiens are native to central America. When breeders took those plants out of the jungle they left the disease behind. The disease has followed its host across the globe. Impatiens Downy Mildew will turn a beautiful stand of Impatiens into nothing more than sticks in days. It spreads mainly by airborne spores. You can tell if your plants are infected by turning over the leaves and looking for a powdery, gray growth on the undersides. The biggest clue is that they start to die very quickly. Prevention is the best treatment option since there is no really effective cure...yet. If you find infected Impatiens in your garden then pull them out by the roots, put them in sealed plastic bags and send them to the landfill right away. If infected plants are allowed to remain in the garden then the Downy Mildew fungus will grow another, more insidious type of spore.

inoculated with these durable spores then every time you plant Impatiens they will become infected. Pouring fungicide into the soil is unlikely to remove all the spores. My strategy is to take a break from Impatiens for several seasons. By that time new, resistant varieties and control procedures should be in place.

The drought continues. Even though it's cool outside the level of moisture in our soil is alarmingly low. Please keep watering your trees, shrubs, and perennials. Every drop of water you give them before winter will help them survive the winter. Many lawns are showing signs of stress. Large, dead or thin patches have shown up in most lawns by now. Fall is a perfect time to over seed these areas. The soil is warm and the air is cool. These are perfect conditions for grass seed to germinate. For best results I recommend a blend of perennial blue grass and perennial rye. Try to avoid Fescue even though it is inexpensive. Fescue has a different texture than blue grass and many people assume it is a weed. It has been a tough season for plants this year. Let's hope that 2013 brings plenty of rain at the right time. Meanwhile, let's all enjoy the mums, and fall color.

-Paul

These spores are very durable and can live in your garden soil from year to year. Once your garden soil is



LIBERTY THANK YOU!

The Prestwick Homeowners Association would like to thank Prestwick resident Bill Kiehl, Chairman of Liberty Creative Solutions, as well as Liberty's CEO Angela Hipelius, for donating staff time and materials for the printing of the PHA newsletter, PHA directory and annual dues mailings. The work is outstanding and the service is even better!

Want to know more about Liberty Creative Solutions Marketing? Visit www.LibertyCreativeSolutions.com or call 708.633.7450.