



Pest Alert For Spring

- Cankerworms strip the new leaves from shade trees and shrubs, hanging by single threads from the twigs in the process. We can control them with Tal-Star which is dependable and pet safe.
- If you see sticky honeydew droplets on leaves and hard surfaces, check for aphids. They are always pear-shaped, but their sizes and colors will vary. Bark aphids cluster on trees' trunks. They are the largest of our local aphids species. Adults can be as large as a small English pea. General-purpose insecticides, organic or inorganic should control them. Other aphids will accumulate on tender new growth of roses, day lilies, photinias and others. We can apply Tal-Star insecticide to eliminate them.
- Broad leafed weed killer sprays can be applied to non-grassy weeds anytime temperatures are in the high 60s or 70s for two days without rain. Watch for a warm spell, then take advantage of it to eliminate clover, dandelions, henbit, chickweed, thistles and other unsightly invaders. Call the office to schedule an application of 3-dose post emergent.
- Snails, slugs and pillbugs are chewing their way through our gardens. Your plants will survive light outbreaks of them, but, if the problem becomes serious, use insecticide baits or dusts, or if you prefer, bury pie pans half-filled with beer or watery dog food. They'll be attracted by the aroma, but they'll drown in the moisture.
- Spider mites invade junipers, Italian cypress and arbor vitae early. While we normally don't see them on other landscape plants until it gets hot, the species that bothers conifers gets a quick start. If the centers of your plants turn brown or grayish-brown over a several-week period, that could be from the mites. Thump a suspect twig over a sheet of white paper. If the tiny specks start to move about. They seem especially likely to hit low groundcover junipers.
- Fire ants are active throughout their Texas range. As you see fresh and active mounds use individual mound treatments to control those that are most threatening to you, your family and pets. Diazonon has been proven effective for these pesty insects.

We work hard so you won't have to

Emerald Cut Lawn and Landscape, Inc.