

Horticultural Points of Interest – April 2018

- **Spray for Winter Moths on Trees, Shrubs and Perennials**
 - With cool spring Temperatures may be able to kill eggs on stems and trunks with Horticultural Oil
 - Safe and effective (kills by suffocation)
 - Caterpillars start off on Trees but quickly Infest Shrubs & Perennials by “Ballooning” (hang by web in wind)
 - Caterpillars eat into buds early on and destroy them from the inside
 - Bacillus Thuringiensis Kurstaki good for young Caterpillars (Only) and safe
 - Spinosad good for Larger Caterpillars
 - Relatively low Human Toxicity
 - Avoid contact of wet spray with Bees
 - Once dry very effective if eaten but not very toxic to insects otherwise
- **Safe Spraying**
 - Spray in the Evening so that Pollinators are not impacted by the Spray
 - Use the least Toxic Spray for the Pest at Hand
 - Horticultural Oil as above and for Scale Insects
 - Insecticidal Soap for Aphids and Mites
 - Spinosad for Chewing Insects
 - Spray when air is Calm so Spray only goes where Needed
 - Wear long sleeves and pants
 - Use disposable Gloves
 - Use a paint style Face Mask to avoid breathing the Spray yourself
- **Diseases of Dogwoods**
 - Anthracnose
 - Symptoms
 - Purple-tan patches on Leaf Edge especially Late Spring
 - Prevention
 - Sun or Partial Sun rather than full Shade and Adequate Air Flow
 - Impact
 - Has been a serious Problem with Native Dogwoods (C. Florida) but problem is waning. Less of an Issue with Asian Dogwoods (C. Kousa, etc)
 - Treatment
 - Fungicides
 - Powdery Mildew
 - Symptoms
 - Dusty White Coating on Leaves, which can later Brown and Fall
 - Prevention
 - Drought Stress aggravates symptoms; Water Thoroughly in Drought
 - Impact
 - Weakens Tree. Reduced Bloom in subsequent Years. Asian Dogwoods usually but not always less Susceptible
 - Treatment
 - Spray with Horticultural Oil, Neem Oil or Fungicides. Periodic Sprays likely necessary

- **Dividing Perennials**

- When to Divide
 - Early spring blooming perennials in the Fall; Summer and Fall blooming perennials in the Spring
 - Many can be divided as long as temperatures are not excessively Hot
- Bulbs and Corms
 - Best to divide when dormant
 - Remove small Bulblets offset around the main Bulb
 - Replant main Bulb and individual Bulblets
- Fibrous Rooted
 - Break or cut apart root clump so that there is at least one stem for each section of root and replant
- Rhizome
 - Usually spreading root growing horizontally just under the soil
 - Cut apart so that each section has 1 or 2 growing points (eyes, if dormant, or stems) and Replant
 - Tuberous Rooted are Treated the same way
- Tap Root
 - Typically resent any effort at division and often die
 - Propagate by seeds or cuttings
- Exceptions
 - Some plants resent division and fare poorly or die after division
 - Corsican and Bear's Paw Hellebores, Acanthus, Baptisia, Peonies and a few others
 - Propagate by seeds or cuttings as appropriate



Rhizome illustration