

Horticultural Points of Interest – September 2018

- **Summer Rainfall**

- Slightly above Average Rainfall for June and July
- Below Average by 0.5” in August
 - Coupled with high Temperatures stressed Gardens

- **Watering Recommendations**

- Recommend 1” per Week for Gardens
- How Much Water is that?

	Area of Garden (Square Feet)				
	500	1000	2000	5000	10000
Gallons	312	623	1247	3117	6234

- For Smaller Gardens can make up the Shortfall
 - For larger Gardens not as practical
 - Apply only as much Water as necessary to Preserve the Plants
 - Triage Plants watering some and not Others
 - Use Drought Tolerant Plants
 - Prudent Approach

- **Eliminating Noxious Weeds**

- Poison Ivy, Poison Sumac and other Hard to Eradicate Weeds
 - For Allergens Herbicides may be best Answer
- Herbicide Application
 - Use an Empty Cleaner Spray Bottle (e.g. Windex or Fantastik)
 - Do not use sprayers used with Ornamentals
 - Label “Herbicides Only” to avoid inadvertent use on Ornamentals
 - Use when air is calm and apply carefully to avoid unintentional Casualties
 - Use the same precautions you would use with Pesticides
 - Gloves, Long Shirt and Pants, Paint Mask
- Now is a Great time to apply Herbicides
 - Plants are laying in a store of Nutrients to survive Winter
 - Herbicide interrupts this process further damaging Weed

- **Pest Watch**

- Winter Moth
 - Based on effective results in Nova Scotia parasitic Flies (*Cyzenis albicans*) introduced by UMass Amherst to Feed on Larva
 - Winter Moth Caterpillars are their sole Food Source
 - Pupates within Larva ensuring its destruction
 - Introduced to Wenham 2006 and 2007 & Rockport 2013
 - Found at several Cape Ann locations 2015 & 2016
 - Only 1 Generation of Flies per Year
 - Lay hundreds of Eggs on Leaves in Anticipation that Winter Moth Caterpillars will eat them
 - Will take Time to reproduce to the numbers needed for full control but considerably reduced Foliage loss already on Cape Ann
 - Some introduction Sites (e.g. Wellesley) already fully controlled

- **Pest Watch (Continued)**

- Hemlock Adelgids
 - Tiny Ladybug Beetles Introduced in Manchester several Years ago
 - *Pseudosaymnes tsugae* beetles the size of a poppy seed consume Adelgids
 - Large scale introduction of beetles not possible because of complications in growing
 - \$1 to \$2 cost per Beetle !!
 - Incremental improvements hard to assess
 - Adelgids not as Winter Hardy as initially thought
 - Killed with Temperatures near and below Zero
 - Horticultural Oil Spray applied March/April very effective
 - Must remain above freezing for several days to allow Water to evaporate leaving the Oil
 - Summer application (lower dose) also helpful
 - Merit (imidacloprid) administered as a Soil Drench also effective and especially useful for very large Trees
 - More Costly and best done professionally
 - Note: This is a neonicotinoid