UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EXTENSION

TPM/IPM Weekly Report
for Arborists, Landscape Managers & Nursery Managers

Commercial Horticulture **April 17, 2026**

In This Issue...

Integrated Pest Management for Commercial Horticulture
extension.umd.edu/ipm

If you work for a commercial horticultural business in the area, you can report insect, disease, weed or cultural plant problems **(include location and insect stage)** found in the landscape or nursery to sklick@umd.edu

Coordinator Weekly IPM Report:
Laura Nixon, IPM Specialist in Entomology, University of Maryland Extension, Lnixon1@umd.edu, and Paula Shrewsbury, Professor and Extension Specialist in Ornamental and Turf IPM, Department of Entomology, pshrewsbury@umd.edu

Regular Contributors:
Pest and Beneficial Insect Information: Laura Nixon and Paula Shrewsbury (Extension Specialists) and Nancy Harding, Faculty Research Assistant
Disease Information: David Clement (Extension Specialist) and Ana Cristina Fulladolsa (Plant Pathologist and Director, UMD Diagnostic Lab)
Weed of the Week: Kelly Nichols and Nathan Glenn, (UME Extension Educators) and Dan Buonaiuto, (Assistant Professor), Dept. of Plant Sciences and Architecture
Cultural Information: Ginny Rosenkranz (Extension Educator, Wicomico/Worcester/Somerset Counties)
Fertility Management: Andrew Ristvey (Extension Specialist, Wye Research & Education Center)
Design, Layout and Editing: Suzanne Klick (Technician, CMREC)

American Salmonfly Adult - What are you doing here?

By Laura Nixon

Please allow me a moment to be an excitable entomologist. This week whilst digging through boxwoods in Hancock, MD, I came across this adult american salmonfly (*Pteronarcys dorsata*). This is the largest species of stonefly in North America, and measured nearly 3 inches. Salmonfly spend most of their life cycle as aquatic nymphs, with the adults living no more than a few weeks to reproduce. I've never seen an adult before, and feel lucky this one came to help me scout for boxwood pests!

American salmonfly in a boxwood. Photo: Laura Nixon

Spiny Witchhazel Gall Aphids on Birch

By Laura Nixon

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, sent us photos of spiny witchhazel gall aphids (*Hamamelistes spinosus*) on the underside of birch leaves this week. This species is heterogeneous, which means it has a winter and a summer host. Spiny witchhazel gall aphids overwinter on witchhazel, where they form spiky galls and begin to feed in early spring. As the weather warms up, these aphids migrate to their summer host, river birch.

The aphids cause distortion on the birch leaves, as pictured. The damage is generally aesthetic and natural predators will keep population numbers low. Treatment of this pest is not usually needed. If the populations reach a high enough density to affect the value or health of your tree, they can be sprayed with horticulture oil. Coverage of the lower surfaces of the leaves is critical for these treatments.

For more information on the biology of spiny witch hazel gall aphid, see May 23, 2025 IPM Alert.

Damage on river birch leaf caused by the spiny witchhazel gall aphids on the underside of the leaf. Photo: Maria Rojas, IPM Scout.

Turn the leaf over to find spiny witchhazel gall aphids.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout.

Lilac Borer Monitoring and Spring Treatments

By Laura Nixon

Lilac borer (*Podosesia syringae*) is a clearwing moth whose larvae burrow into tree trunks to feed and develop. They can be a major pest of lilacs and fringetree in our region. Ash and other members of the olive family (Oleaceae) are also susceptible; in fact, this borer can also be referred to as ash borer. This species has one generation per year. The eggs are laid in late spring/early summer. The larvae hatch and immediately bore into the tree trunk where they overwinter. In the spring, the larvae resume feeding and finish development, then adults emerge at 350 DD. These borers leave round-shaped holes in the trunk and tend to be lower on the tree, although they can be found higher up in younger or particularly stressed trees. The feeding from the larvae can

leave a tree weakened, with decline symptoms like flagging branches. If a tree is experiencing other stressors, or the borer population is high, this pest can lead to tree death.

If you see previous borer holes or start to see holes with pupal casings present, the next two weeks are critical to prepare for treatments. If you have susceptible trees about which you're concerned, but don't see any damage, you can deploy pheromone-baited traps (commercially available) next week to monitor for adult activity. The adults look similar to large paper wasps.

After adults have emerged (350 DD is approaching across the state), insecticide treatments can be applied 10 - 14 days later to target hatching eggs and prevent young larvae from boring through the trunk. Once larvae bore into the tree, treatments have low or no efficacy. Chlorantraniliprole (less toxic to natural enemies), bifenthrin, and permethrin are recommended for this species and should be applied as trunk sprays only.

If you have an acre or more of susceptible trees, there is a mating disruption product available for lilac borer which can be deployed now. Female lilac borers emit sex pheromones for the males to pinpoint them; mating disruption contains this same pheromone and floods the area with it, so the males are unable to find females with which to mate. This is a preventative measure to be deployed before adults emerge.

Adult lilac/ash borer clearwing moth.
Photo: Mark Dreiling, Bugwood.org

Pupal casing pulled from the tree trunk as the adult lilac borer emerges.
Photo: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org.

Buprestid Beetles

By Laura Nixon

This week, Marie Rojas (IPM Scout), found a buprestid beetle on a loblolly pine. Marie noted there were no signs of beetle boring or dieback on the loblolly. As there are over 100 species of buprestids in Maryland, we haven't been able to identify this one to species, but we do know it is not one of our key damaging species (emerald ash borer, red-legged buprestis, flatheaded apple tree borer).

Buprestids are commonly called jewel beetles, for their colorful and shiny appearance, or flathead borers, for their damaging larval stage. Larvae of buprestid beetle bores into and feeds on the cambium tissue of their host tree (host type depends on the beetle species), and adults emerge from D-shaped holes in the tree trunk. These D-shaped holes and the galleries found beneath the bark of trees are sure signs of buprestid activity.

Buprestidae found on loblolly pine.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout.

Report Correction

Last week's report on Maskell scale listed Venom as a dinotefuran product. The label for Venom only lists small fruits and vegetables, not ornamentals. The April 10th IPM report posted online has been updated.

Ambrosia Beetle in Traps and on Trees

By Laura Nixon and Paula Shrewsbury

We are monitoring ambrosia beetles from multiple traps in Maryland. In particular, we look for the key three damaging species (black stem borers, granulate ambrosia beetles, and camphor shoot beetles) in the traps. This week, in our CMREC traps (Ellicott City, MD), we had ~25 ambrosia beetles, 4 of which were *Monarthrum fasciatum* (not one of the 3 key species). In Montgomery County, traps captured a dozen ambrosia beetles (still to be identified), and Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, made the first report of tree activity ("toothpicks" from trunk) on American holly (*Ilex opaca*) and Dogwood 'Appalachian Spring'. We know ambrosia beetles are flying this week, so keep an eye out for toothpicks from tree trunks and an uptick in ambrosia beetle trap captures. If you see either, please report to IPM Alerts!

Note the two short frass tubes on this holly that female ambrosia beetles are producing when boring into the tree.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Box Tree Moth Update

By Laura Nixon

We are still seeing increasing box tree moth caterpillar activity at the same sites in Washington County, MD this week. Our most noteworthy find was this very large caterpillar that we think is a sixth instar larvae; this may be the final stage before pupation, although it is still unknown if there is a seventh instar in our population. We will be learning a lot about this new invasive species this year!

If you see any BTM activity, please report it to the IPM Alerts and your state department of agriculture.

Box tree moth caterpillar measuring 3 cm. It was found in Hancock, MD on April 15.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Aphids and Beneficials

By: Suzanne Klick

Dave Keane, Howard County Recreation and Parks, found aphids covering the trunk of a red bud (*Cercis canadensis*) in Frederick this week. Scout landscape and nurseries for aphid populations to determine if any control measures are necessary. As the temperatures warm up, predators and parasitoids often do a good job reducing aphids on plants early in the season. Horticultural oil can be applied and will have minimal impact on beneficials. Avoid an oil applications when the temperatures are high to prevent plant phytotoxicity.

Aphids are covering the stem of a red bud.
Photo: Dave Keane, Howard County Recreation and Parks

A syrphid fly larva is searching for aphids infesting a sedum.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

A lady beetle larva is searching for aphids on clover.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

An aphid mummy (parasitized by a small wasp) was found on a clover leaf.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME

Armored Scale Update

By: Paula Shrewsbury

There have been multiple reports of various armored scales (Diaspididae) on trees recently. Marie Rojas (IPM Scout) and others have reported the presence of gloomy scale (*Melanaspis tenebricosa*), white prunicola scale (WPS, *Psuedaulacaspis prunicola*), and Japanese maple scale (JMS, *Lopholeucaspis japonica*). It is too early in the season for the crawlers from any of these scales to be active yet. However, if you note these scales in your monitoring, you should be ready to treat trees affected by them. All three of these species are considered key scale pests and can be challenging to manage. Below is information that should assist in management of these pests. Also note from the Degree Day table at the end of this report, DDs in the MD / Washington DC region this week ranged from about **203 DD** (Clarksville) to **338 DD** (Nat'l Arboretum/Reagan Nat'l).

White prunicola scale has 3 generations with crawlers at: 1st generation = ~513 DD; 2nd generation = ~1637 DD; and 3rd generation = ~3238 DD. WPS has a wide host range and is common on *Prunus* species such as Japanese flowering cherry and cherry laurel (but also watch privet and lilac).

Male white prunicola scale were found on ornamental cherry this week.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Female white prunicola scale are covering the trunk of this ornamental cherry.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Japanese maple scale has 2 generations with crawlers at: 1st generation = ~829 DD and 2nd generation = ~2508 DD. JMS has a wide host range (click here for the host plant list).

Gloomy scale has 1 generation with crawlers around 900 DD (this occurred around June 1st in College Park, MD in 2025). Gloomy scale is commonly found on red and silver maples in landscapes, especially where heat island effects are present.

Management: Monitor infested trees closely. The optimal time to treat is when crawlers are active. Target the crawler or settled crawler stages with the insect growth regulators (IGR) buprofezin or pyriproxsyfen. Be sure to continue to monitor to determine if a second application may be needed due to the long crawler

emergence period for all three of these scales. Horticultural oils may be applied to target crawlers, but you must pay attention to the weather and label warnings to avoid plant phytotoxicity (for example, do not use when temperatures and humidity are high). Consider dormant oil applications during the appropriate season.

Gloomy scale blends in well on the trunk of this red maple.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

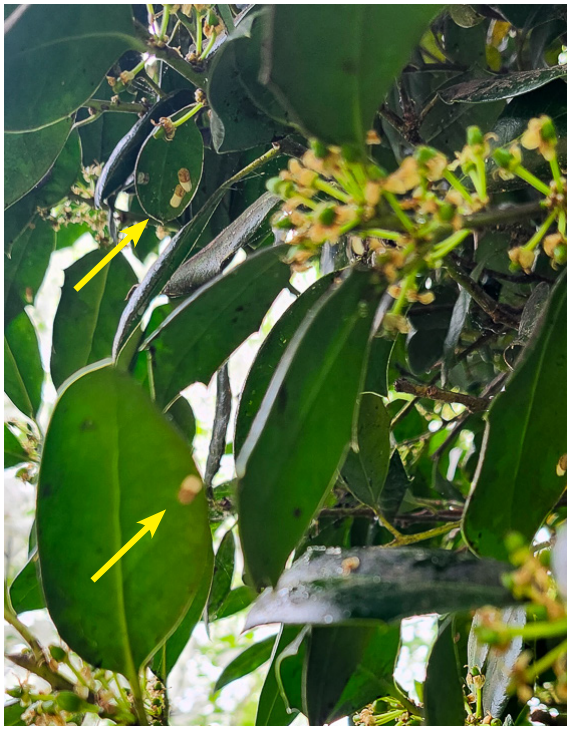
Japanese maple scale has a wide host range. This *Amelanchier laevis* has a heavy infesation.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Cottony Camellia/Taxus Scale

By: Suzanne Klick

Sam Fisher, Bartlett Tree Experts, found the soft scale, cottony camellia/Taxus scale (*Pulvinaria floccifera*) laying eggs on a holly hedge in DC this week. This scale will continue to produce eggs until late May. Look for crawlers in late May to early June around 649 degree days. Treat the crawlers at that time.

Note the white egg sacs of cottony camellia/ Taxus produced by the adult females.
Photo: Suzanne Klick, UME



Cottony camellia/Taxus scale are producing eggs in D.C. this week.
Photo: Sam Fisher, Bartlett Tree Experts

2006 Beech Leaf Disease Update

David L. Clement and Ana Cristina Fulladolsa

As beech trees begin to leaf out this spring in Maryland, we've already had inquiries about beech leaf disease (BLD) symptoms and infection. This disease, caused by the foliar nematode *Litylenchus crenatae* subsp. *mccannii*, is causing significant dieback, decline and death of landscape and forest beech trees from the Great Lakes region, through Pennsylvania and New York to coastal New England and is now spreading through the mid-Atlantic states. It was first reported in Maryland in Washington County in September 2023 and has been reported in 14 of 23 counties as of 2025.

A small cluster of beech leaves showing the distinct light and dark green bands of beech leaf disease symtpoms. Photo: Miri Talabac, UME-HGIC

New beech leaves will emerge in the spring already infected with low nematode populations showing the characteristic banding, or darkening, of the leaf area between the veins. Symptoms progress from leaf banding to shrinkage in leaf size, as well as heavy banding and crinkling leather texturing of the leaf. Advanced symptoms include leaf curling and dead and dying leaf tissue. The foliar nematodes will overwinter in the buds as eggs and adults. When disease severity is high, buds are killed outright and no new leaves and shoots are produced. Very large populations of nematode eggs can exist within killed buds. Nematode eggs produced within the buds are dispersed during budbreak and can be spread throughout the canopy by rainwater and wind. The eggs can survive for long periods until sufficient moisture allows for hatching.

Beech leaf disease is caused by the foliar nematode, *Litylenchus crenatae* subsp. *mccannii.* Photo: Ana Cristina Fulladolsa, UME

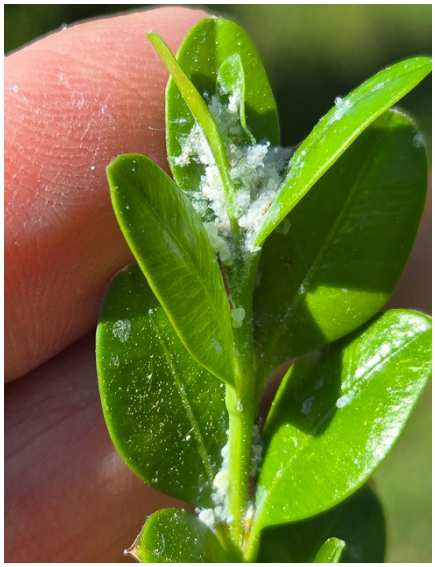
As the season progresses the nematode populations will increase and move to new branches and eventually spread throughout the tree canopy. The entire tree canopy will become less dense and thinner as trees age. As the damage progresses over the years, leaf buds are aborted and premature leaf drop occurs. The disease progression can be lethal to younger trees and cause decline in larger beeches. The methods of how these nematodes move from tree to tree have not been fully established and more research on this disease is being conducted.

Management

There are no cultural practices that can limit the spread and severity of BLD. Removal of infected trees will not eradicate this disease from infested sites. The three best management tools that have emerged, which are available through licensed professionals, are phosphite product soil drenches, foliar sprays of the locally systemic nematicide fluopyram, and root flair injections with product formulations of thiabendazole hypophosphite before mid-July.

Boxwood Psyllids

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, is reporting that boxwood psyllid nymphs are active and producing their cottony masses on the tips of boxwood this week in Montgomery County. Psyllid feeding causes cupped and curled leaves. Boxwood psyllid has one short generation each year. Damage is rarely significant enough to warrant treatment. If you do treat, materials such as abamectin (Avid), pymetrozine (Endeavor), flupyradifurone (Altus), or acephate should all control this insect.



Boxwood psyllid nymphs produce a cottony covering.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Boxwood Leafminer

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, is starting to see adult emergence of boxwood leafminer in Montgomery County. Marie noted that most are still in the pupal stage. Look for adults flying over the next week. Encourage natural enemies such as green lacewings and spiders. Keep plants healthy. Use boxwood cultivars that are more resistant to boxwood leafminer. Cultivars of English boxwood such as *Buxus sempervirens* 'Pendula,' '‘Suffruticosa,' 'Handworthiensis,' 'Pyramidalis,' 'Argenteo-varigata' and 'Varder Valley' are more resistant. Mechanical controls can reduce populations. Prune the foliage before adults emerge, or if they have already emerged wait until adults are done laying eggs in the leaves. Although chemical applications of systemics (dinotefuran) made in the spring (April to May) have given good control, most people recommend applications made in August into September. Mike Raupp, UMD, found that abamectin applied early season (just after oviposition), gave equal control to imidacloprid. Abamectin is a translaminar material and gives the added benefit of spider mite suppression.

Boxwood leafminer adults are starting to emerge this week in our area.
Photo: Marie Rojas, IPM Scout

Spotted Lanternfly

Marie Rojas, IPM Scout, and Luke Gustafson, The Davey Tree Expert Company, found egg hatch of spotted lanternfly this week in Montgomery County and Baltimore City, respectively.

USDA Designates Nine Maryland Counties as Primary Natural Disaster Areas Following Severe Drought

ANNAPOLIS, MD (April 17, 2026) – Due to ongoing dry conditions during the growing season, nine counties in Maryland have received drought disaster designations from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). Farmers in the primary designated counties of Allegany, Carroll, Charles, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery, Prince George’s and Washington are now eligible for certain assistance from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). For more information on available assistance programs, please visit the Maryland FSA State office website.

Beneficial of the Week
By: Paula Shrewsbury

Tiger beetles are voracious predators!

The first week in April, I spotted numerous six-spotted green tiger beetles, *Cicindela sexguttata*, adults on the C&O Canal trail near Sharpsburg, MD. Tiger beetles are a species of ground beetle (Family: Carabidae) which are voracious ground foraging predators. In MD, there are multiple species of tiger beetles. For example, other common species of tiger beetle are the bronzed tiger beetle, *Cicindela repanda* and the Puritan tiger beetle, *Cicindela puritan*, which is a threatened species. Although different species of tiger beetles vary in color, most have a metallic hue to them, they forage on the ground, and all are voracious predators. Tiger beetles get their name because they catch their prey in a tiger-like manner.

A six-spotted green tiger beetle adult enjoying a tasty meal.
Photo: Dave Cappaert, Invasive.org

The six-spotted green and bronzed tiger beetles occupy 2 different ecological niches or habitats. Six-spotted green tiger beetles are common on hiking and biking trails in wooded areas and are often spotted where there are sunny patches of ground. The six-spotted green tiger beetle is about 10-14 mm (0.4 – 0.6”) long and have 6 white spots on its elytra (wings). Because the six-spotted green tiger beetle is a beautiful metallic green color, and they take flight when you approach them, they are easy to spot on a trail. This species occurs across the entire eastern half of the U.S. with the exception of the very South and the Florida Panhandle. The bronzed tiger beetle is bronze in color with a unique pattern of curvy lines on its elytra and are about 10-13 mm (0.4 – 0.5”) long. Bronzed tiger beetles are most abundant on the sandy banks of rivers and occur in almost every U.S. state.

The strange looking tiger beetle larva lives in an underground burrow and captures unsuspecting prey that stray too near. This larva looks like a candidate for a sci-fi movie.
Photo: Mike J. Raupp, UMD

As you approach a tiger beetle, it will take flight and land about 5 – 10’ away. Unlike assassin bugs or preying mantids, which are “sit and wait predators”, tiger beetles are “active hunters” like tigers (see YouTube by Mike Raupp, UMD). They actively stalk, chase, and capture their prey along the ground. Tiger beetles have quite long legs for running and large eyes that enable them to search their surroundings for any signs of movement which would indicate potential food or danger. Their jaws are powerful with very prominent “teeth” which they use to grab, pierce and crush their prey – yikes! Both adult and immature tiger beetles are carnivorous. The eggs of tiger beetles are laid in the

soil where, once hatched, the larvae build an underground burrow. The larva waits near the opening inside the burrow for an unsuspecting prey to pass by. When this happens the tiger beetle larva jumps from its burrow and grabs the prey, pulls it into the burrow and enjoys a feast. The adults are beautiful insects and interesting to watch, but if you have the need to catch one beware – they are known to draw human blood with their powerful and sharp mouthparts.

A mating pair of bronzed tiger beetles that were hanging out on sandy river bank in MD.
Photo: Paula Shrewsbury, UMD

I also want to mention the Puritan tiger beetle, which is well known in MD, but less commonly seen. The Puritan tiger beetle was listed as a threatened species under the Federal endangered species act in 1990. The Puritan tiger beetle only occurs in two regions, along the Chesapeake in Maryland, and along the Connecticut River in New England. Maryland is home to the largest known global population of Puritan tiger beetles. The Chesapeake Bay contains two large sub-populations of Puritan tiger beetles in Calvert County (Warriors Rest and Calvert Cliffs State Park) and they are protected. Adult Puritan tiger beetles can be seen on certain beaches and the larvae require a very specific habitat. They need naturally eroding cliffs along the beach. Go the website listed below to learn more about these beetles.

To learn more about Puritan tiger beetles visit the following web site: https://www.fws.gov/species/puritan-tiger-beetle-cicindela-puritana


Puritan tiger beetle found in Calvert County, MD.
Photo: T. Friedlander, MarylandBiodiversity.com

Weed of the Week

By: Nathan Glenn

Speedwell (*Veronica* spp.)

A closer look at turf and landscape areas in late winter and early spring often reveals small, blue-flowered weeds beginning to bloom—commonly referred to as **speedwells** (*Veronica* spp.). While several species may be present in the Mid-Atlantic, they share similar traits and management strategies, making it useful to understand both their common characteristics and key differences.

Speedwells are generally **winter annuals or short-lived perennials** that establish in the fall and become more noticeable as temperatures warm in early spring.

Common Speedwell Species to Know

SPECIES	LIFE CYCLE	LOWER LEAF ARRANGEMENT	UPPER LEAF ARRANGEMENT
Persian Speedwell (*Veronica persica*)	annual	opposite	alternate
Corn Speedwell (*Veronica arvensis*)	annual	opposite	alternate
Thyme-leaf Speedwell (*Veronica serpylifolia*)	perennial	opposite	alternate

Image courtesy of Mike Crewe, Plant Atlas 2020, BSBI News

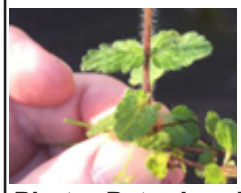


Photo: Peter Landschoot, Penn State University

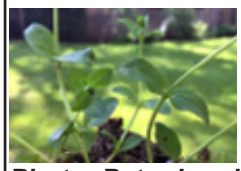


Photo: Peter Landschoot, Penn State University

Identification (General)

- **Growth habit**: Low-growing, spreading or slightly upright depending on species
- **Leaves**: Opposite, oval to rounded, often **hairy** with toothed or rounded margins
- **Flowers**: Small, typically **blue**, with four petals (one often smaller), sometimes with white centers
- **Flower location**: Often at leaf axils or on short stalks
- **Height**: Typically 2–12 inches

Speedwells are frequently confused with **henbit** and **ground ivy**, but can be distinguished by their **smaller blue flowers** and leaf arrangement.

> **Fun Fact**: The name “speedwell” comes from its historical use as a medicinal herb, believed to promote healing—hence wishing someone to “speed well.”

Habitat & Timing

- Found in turfgrass, nursery beds, and landscape settings
- Thrive in thin, stressed turf and cool, moist to moderately dry soils depending on the species
- Germinate in the fall and flower in early spring, often one of the first weeds to bloom

Control

Cultural:

- Maintain dense, healthy turf to reduce establishment
- Improve turf density through fertilization, consistent mowing, and use of well adapted turfgrass species
- Address thin or drought-stressed areas

Chemical: Populations of Speedwell species can be suppressed or controlled by a number of different preemergent and postemergent herbicides. Check out extension resources for more information. Remember to read and obey the label of your herbicide–the label is the law.

Timing Tip: Because most speedwell species are winter annuals, fall-applied pre-emergent herbicides are the most effective strategy for prevention.

Plant of the Week

By: Ginny Rosenkranz

Flowering dogwood is in full bract along the edge of this wooded area. Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Benthamidia (Cornus) florida is also commonly known as flowering dogwood, a wonderful native understory tree that grows 15-30 feet tall and wide and thrives in moist acidic, organically rich soils with morning sun and afternoon shade. These spring flowering trees should be planted at least 1-2 inches above ground level and topped with a 1–2-inch layer of mulch to keep the roots cool and moist during the heat of summer. In nature, flowering dogwood can be found at the edges of the woods or growing under the larger woodland trees. The tree's habit is to spread its branches almost horizontally with a broadly pyramidal or flat top. They begin to bloom before the leaves emerge and when the Redbuds are halfway done blooming. The flower buds grow at the ends of the branches and are flattened, rounded and are covered by 2 large silky scales, with another 2 inner scales at a 90-degree angle that become showy white bracts. The true, very tiny yellow-green flowers are gathered in a centered ¾ inch compact button and are surrounded by 4 very showy, pure white petal-like 2-inch-long bracts. Each bract opens flat and has a rounded notch at the ends. The flowers mature into glossy bright shiny red fruits in clusters of 3-4 at the ends of the branches. They are bitter and inedible for humans but

are enjoyed in the autumn by 43 species of birds. The 3-6 inch oval leaves attach opposite to each other on the stems with curving veins from the base to the tip of the leaf with an entire margin. The fall colors are often red to burgundy, and the stems are green with purple. The bark as the trees mature are grayish- brown to blackish in square and rectangular blocks. Flowering dogwood is a host plant for the Azure caterpillar (*Celastrina ladon*) while many different butterflies feed on the nectar of the tiny flowers. The flowers support many bees including the specialized bees *Andrena fragilis* (Fragile Dogwood Mining Bee), *Andrena integra* (Bare Dogwood miner Bee) and *Andrena platyparia* (Plated Miner Bee) Some of the birds that feast on the fall berries include many songbirds, ruffed grouse, quail and wild turkey. There are quite a few mammals that also eat the ripe red berries including black bears, foxes, white tailed deer, skunks and squirrels. The trees are hardy in USDA zones 5-9 and are tolerant to deer browsing, clay soils and black walnut trees. The beautiful Flowering dogwood does have its share of insect and disease pests, but mostly when they are stressed in the landscape. Insect pests can include dogwood borer, dogwood sawfly, leaf hoppers, leaf miner, calico scale, Japanese maple scale, and oyster shell scale. Diseases include dogwood anthracnose (which only occurs at 1800 feet or higher elevations), spot anthracnose, powdery mildew, leaf spot, canker, root rot and leaf, twig blight, crown canker, bacterial leaf scorch and septoria leaf spot. There are native and nativar dogwood that are resistant to powdery mildew including ‘Appalachian Joy’, ‘Cherokee Brave’, ‘Jeans Appalachian Snow’. ‘Karens Appalachian Blush’, Kay’s Appalachian Mist’, ‘Weavers White’, and ‘Welch’s Bay Beauty’.

This flowering dogwood is in full bract and the small greenish yellow flowers will be opening soon.
Photo: Ginny Rosenkranz, UME

Pest Predictive Calendar “Predictions"

By: Nancy Harding and Paula Shrewsbury

In the Maryland area, the accumulated growing degree days (**DD**) this week range from about **203 DD** (Clarksville) to **338 DD** (Nat'l Arboretum/Reagan Nat'l). The Pest Predictive Calendar tells us when susceptible stages of pest insects are active based on their DD. Therefore, this week you should be monitoring for the following pests. The estimated start degree days of the targeted life stage are in parentheses.

European pine sawfly – larva, early instar **(154 DD)**
Woolly elm aphid – egg hatch **(163 DD)**
Inkberry holly leafminer – adult emergence **(165 DD)**
Spiny witchhazel gall aphid – adult / nymph **(171 DD)**
Spruce spider mite – egg hatch **(179 DD)**
Boxwood psyllid – egg hatch **(184 DD)**
Tea scale – egg hatch / crawler (1st gen) **(195 DD)**
Hemlock woolly adelgid – egg hatch (1st gen) **(197 DD)**
Viburnum leaf beetle – first egg hatch **(210 DD)**
Azalea lace bug – egg hatch (1st gen) **(214 DD)**
Birch leafminer – adult emergence **(219 DD)**

Roseslug sawfly – larva, early instar **(230 DD)**
Elongate hemlock scale – egg hatch / crawler (1st gen) **(232 DD)**
Boxwood leafminer – adult emergence **(249 DD)**
Hawthorn lace bug – first adult activity **(259 DD)**
Spotted lanternfly – egg hatch **(270 DD)**
Bristly roseslug sawfly – larva, early instar **(284 DD)**
Imported willow leaf beetle – adult emergence **(290 DD)**
Hawthorn leafminer – adult emergence **(292 DD)**
Andromeda lace bug – egg hatch **(305 DD)**
Pine needle scale – egg hatch / crawler (1st gen) **(307 DD)**
Cooley spruce gall adelgid – egg hatch **(308 DD)**
Eastern spruce gall adelgid – egg hatch **(308 DD)**
Spirea aphid – adult / nymph **(326 DD)**
Lilac borer – adult emergence **(350 DD)**
Melon aphid – adult / nymph **(351 DD)**
Spiny ash sawfly – larva, early instar **(358 DD)**
Spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth) – egg hatch **(373 DD)**
Holly leafminer – adult emergence **(375 DD)**

See the Pest Predictive Calendar for more information on DD and plant phenological indicators (PPI) to help you better monitor and manage these pests.

Degree Days (as of April 14, 2026)

Annapolis Naval Academy (KNAK)	226	Baltimore, MD (KBWI)	270
Belcamp (FS836)	218	Clarksville (001MD)	203
College Park (KCGS)	308	Dulles Airport (KIAD)	312
Ft. Belvoir, VA (KDA)	316	Frederick (KFDK)	236
Gaithersburg (KGAI)	277	Greater Cumberland Reg (KCBE)	271
Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)	276	Millersville (MD026)	283
Natl Arboretum/Reagan Natl (KDCA)	338	Perry Hall (C0608)	223
Salisbury/Ocean City (KSBY)	303	St. Mary's City (Patuxent NRB KNHK)	302
Westminster (KDMW)	324		

Important Note: We are using the Online Phenology and Degree-Day Models site. Use the following information to calculate GDD for your site: Select your location from the map Model Category: All models Select Degree-day calculatorThresholds in: Fahrenheit °F Lower: 50 Upper: 95 Calculation type: simple average/growing dds Start: Jan 1

Conferences

May 20, 2026
Mid-Atlantic Nursery Workshop: the Water Loop to Pot: Managing Ponds, Irrigation, Substrates, and Runoff for Better Production Profits
Location: Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Education Center, Virginia Tech, Virginia Beach, VA

June 16, 2026
2026 Eastern Shore Procrastinators Conference
Location: Zoom

June 18, 2026
MNLGA Field Day
Location: Mt Cuba Center, Hockessin, DE

June 26, 2026
Montgomery County Pesticide Procrastinators Conference
Location: Derwood, MD

IPM Scouts' Diagnostic Session (1 - 3 p.m.)
June 23, 2026
Location: CMREC, Ellicott City, MD

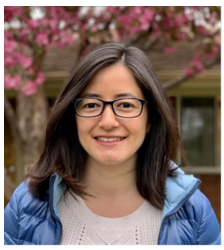
Commercial Ornamental IPM Information
http://extension.umd.edu/ipm

CONTRIBUTORS:

Paula Shrewsbury
Extension Specialist
pshrewsb@umd.edu

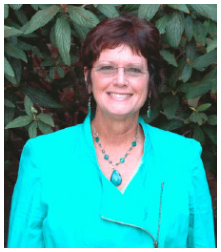
Laura Nixon
Extension Specialist
lnixon1@umd.edu

David Clement
Plant Pathologist
clement@umd.edu



Ana Cristina Fulladolsa
Plant Pathologist
acfulla@umd.edu

Nathan Glenn
Extension Educator
Howard County
nglenn@umd.edu



Nancy Harding
Faculty Research
Assistant

Kelly Nichols
Extension Educator
Montgomery County
kellyn@umd.edu

Dan Buonaiuto
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Plant
Sciences and Land-
scape Architecture
dbuona@umd.edu

Andrew Ristvey
Extension Specialist
aristvey@umd.edu

Ginny Rosenkranz
Extension Educator
Wicomico,
Worcester, Somerset
Counties
rosnkrnz@umd.edu

Thank you to the Maryland Arborist Association, the Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association, Professional Grounds Management Society, FALCAN, and USDA NIFA EIP Award # 2024700043556 for their financial support in making these weekly reports possible.