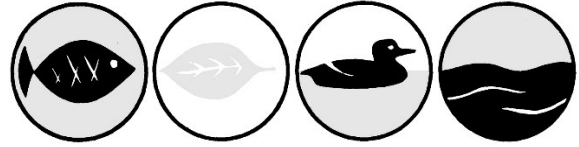


N.I.C.C.



May 2015 Newsletter



I remember the day when I first saw a Japanese beetle thinking how pretty it was. At that time I didn't know the damage it could do to my garden.

The Japanese beetle causes extensive damage to ornamental trees, shrubs, and flowers throughout eastern United States. Strategies to manage the larval and adult stages in the United States are estimated to cost more than \$460 million a year. A native of Japan, this species was first found in the United States in 1916 near Riverton, New Jersey.

Eggs hatch into white grubs with distinct brown heads and three pairs of thoracic legs. Adults are metallic green or greenish-bronze beetles, about 13 mm long with well-developed copperish front wings. They have two patches of white hairs at the tip of their abdomen and five tufts of white hairs on both sides of their abdomen.

This species overwinters as larvae (grubs) in the soil. With the approach of warm spring temperatures, they move toward the soil surface and continue feeding on grass roots. Larvae mature from late May through June and molt to pupae in the soil. Adults emerge from the soil from late June through July. In Pennsylvania adults start to appear about June 20 in the southern areas. They emerge 7-10 days later in other areas of the state. Beetles are most abundant during July and the first two weeks of August.

After mating females live 30-45 days and lay 40-60 eggs in the soil. Larvae hatch from the eggs in 10-12 days. They feed on grass roots until late September when cool soil temperatures cause larvae to move downward into the soil to overwinter. They complete their development the next spring. One generation occurs each year.

Adults feed on nearly 300 different host plants. Some of the more common ornamental plants include: roses, *Rosa* spp.; flowering cherry, *Prunus* spp.; flowering crabapple, *Malus* spp.; zinnias, *Zinnia* spp.; Virginia creeper, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*; Boston ivy, *P. tricuspidata*; linden, *Tilia* spp.; birch, *Betula* spp.; canna, *Canna* spp.; elm, *Ulmus* spp.; and marigolds, *Tagetes* spp. Adults feed during the day, favoring hot weather and plants growing with full exposure to the sun. Adults also consume flowers and foliage of many other host plants. Damaged leaf tissue takes on a skeletonized appearance since they feed between the leaf veins.

A registered insecticide should be applied according to label directions from late June through July when adults first appear and before damage occurs. If repeat applications are needed, read and follow label directions.

Use of Traps to Catch Adult Beetles: Two types of Japanese beetle traps are available as monitoring tools. One type of trap utilizes a floral lure as an attractant. The other trap employs a dual attractant of a floral lure plus a synthetic sex attractant. Be sure to place traps away from susceptible host plants; otherwise, they will attract even more Japanese beetles to the host plants that you wish to protect.

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Authored by: Gregory A. Hoover, Sr. Extension Associate Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences research



It's that time of year again when NICC volunteers grab their gloves and head for the highway. Have you noticed NICC's name on the two signs on Grass Lake Road between Rt. 83 and Rt. 59? NICC signed an agreement each year with the Lake County Division of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway program, to help clear debris on this section of highway. This year will be our 14th year to participate in this program. We would like it to have all volunteers meet at the corner of Rt. 83 & Grass Lake Rd next to Triangle Bait and Marine at 10 am.

Spring cleanup at the club grounds, will follow after the highway cleanup. With winter weather behind us, the grounds at NICC need a good facelift to clear fallen branches, leaves and trimming of dead branches on several trees.

One of our plans is to give the house a good cleaning after being closed up since November. So, there's something to do for everyone.

Lunch will be served to all the volunteers. This is a perfect time to give some of your yearly 5 hours of time to the club. We understand some members are unable to help with the cleanup of the highway and the club grounds. Come on out and meet some of our members and enjoy.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

For those of you who have renewed your membership, thank you. The combination to the gate will be changed **May 1**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 2	Adopt-A-Highway & Grounds clean-up-----10 am
May 18	Board/General/Elections-----7 pm
June 8	Board/General Meeting-----7 pm
July 13	Board/General Meeting-----7 pm

ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on **May 18** at the combined Board/General meeting at 7 pm.

Success means we go to sleep at night knowing that our talents and abilities were used in a way that served others.

Marianne Williamson