



Landscape Spotlight: Japanese Beetles

Special points of interest:

- Keep up with watering as this is typically a dry month in Iowa
- Prune Maple & Birch trees as needed
- Check for grub activity in turf areas
- Continue mowing – skip scheduled mowing if turf is not growing or it is excessively dry
- Prune azaleas and rhododendrons after blooming
- Prune and shape evergreens as needed
- Weed perennial and other landscape beds as needed

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The Japanese Beetle is often considered an attractive insect. They are generally metallic green in color with coppery/brown wing covers. Along the sides they have patches of whitish hairs. This is the most common way used to identify and distinguish them from other insects.



The adults can cause serious damage and injury to leaves and flowers of over 300 different plants from ornamental shrubs/trees to fruits and vegetables. Some of the plants that are most commonly targeted are rose bushes and crabapples. Feeding injuries usually include damage to leaves where the appearance looks “skeletonizing”, this is where the larger veins are left alone and the rest of the leaf surface is chewed away leaving only the “skeleton” of the leaf remaining.

You may be more familiar with the larvae-form of this insect, the white grub, as it can cause

serious damage to your turf by chewing through the root system. The adult beetles usually emerge in mid-June through early July.

Control is difficult because they emerge each day for a period of several weeks. Spot spraying infested foliage of plants may reduce damage, but it may take multiple applications to maintain control over these insects. If you believe you may have a problem, call our office to have one of our trained and licensed professionals come out and identify and control the problem before severe damage or plant loss occurs.

The Benefits of Having an Irrigation System

Benefits:

1. **Save time:** No more spending hours watering your lawn by hand. No more having to remember to move the hose every 20-30 minutes. Your irrigation system will do it for you.
2. **Save water:** No more forgetting to turn the water off outside. No more wasting hundreds of gallons that have just run off your lawn and drained into the street never to be used by your lawn. Your irrigation system will regulate the amount of

water as well as the times it turns on and off. You **will** save money on your water bill versus hand-watering.

3. A+ Lawn and Landscape is a certified irrigation contractor through the National Irrigation Association, 1 of 2 locally. Our staff has over 50 years of combined experience. We are a Preferred Hunter, Toro, and Rainbird Select Contractor. This allows us to provide longer warranties on the products we install. Give us a call to set up and appointment today to get an estimate!

We are locally owned and operated for over 20 years, servicing the Des Moines and surrounding areas!