



Volume 6 Issue 1

Spring 2003

Hello To All!

Helpful Garden Hints

Helpful Garden Hints

Winter provided us with much needed moisture. I am sure many of you have been ready to work out in the garden or yard. I know I am ready to be outdoors again. This would be a good time to start planning for your garden needs. Because of the drought, we will see some problems in the garden that we have not seen for a while. You may have some unexplainable problems with some of your plants. Most of those problems will be attributed to the drought. I am going to share some information that I was reminded of at a winter conference that I attended. If you should have questions, please contact An E-Z Design Co.

Landscape designs and consultations are available by appointment.

Past and present newsletters are now available on our website:

www.ezdesignco.com.

I will be sending this newsletter to those who have given me their email address. The newsletter will continue to be mailed to those who wish to have it mailed through the US Post Office. Those of you have email or access to the internet will be able to get the newsletter via computer. If you have any helpful hints that you would like to share, continue to let us know. The hints will be used in **Busy Lizzie's Mailbox**

Plants have been weakened by the drought. You may see plants partially leaf out or take longer to leaf out this spring. Boring insects may be more of a problem this year. Keep an eye on the trunks and branches for holes and sawdust. Those are telltale signs of boring insect problems. You may wish to have a professional spray for the insects or you may wish to do it yourself. Be sure the applications are applied at the right time. Otherwise, the spray material and money has been wasted.

Keep the plants in good health:

1. Proper watering is important even in a non-drought year.
2. Proper fertilizing is important too.
3. As they say: "Take time to smell the roses!" Spend a little time to get to know your plants. You may not want to do the actual maintenance but being aware of the problems will help you choose a competent professional to help you with your maintenance of yard and garden.

Busy Lizzie's Mailbox

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

This is a method used to help plant problems without the excess use of pesticides.

1. Properly identify the pest problem. Ask help from professionals and or the Extension office in your county.
2. Determine all the alternative pest control methods that you might have besides chemicals including beneficial insects.

If choosing the chemical is the best method consider the following:

1. Read the label completely before applying.
2. Make sure the problem is on the pesticide label.
3. Choose the least toxic pesticide available
4. Avoid spraying where animals are nesting. Spray when bees are least active.
5. Follow the directions as specified. Remember: **More is Not better.**

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