



## Pumpkin Brook Organic Gardening, Inc.

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Greetings,

We had a lot of news to share with you this month, so we are sending an additional newsletter focusing on Plant Health Care topics. Please take a minute to review these timely articles and let us know if we can be of any help.

### Tick & Mosquito Spraying Update

Tick and mosquito applications started last week - due to early season and rampant infestations reported. It's not too late to sign up if you've been meaning to do so! Our cedar oil product is also labelled for control of ants. We've been spraying it around foundations with excellent results. [Contact us soon](#).

A new personal size tick and mosquito repellent also made of natural cedar oil is now available from Pumpkin Brook for only \$10. You may want to buy a 4 oz size to have in the car and another one for the mudroom. It is safe to spray on pets and children who play outside. Use it yourself when you go outdoors, too. We can deliver these to your door as we make our rounds and add to your monthly invoice. We will offer one complimentary spray can to all our clients who have signed up for the 4 part spray program.

The new personal spray that we are offering is most effective when used in conjunction with our outdoor tick and mosquito spray program. The personal spray can not only be used on people and pets but also on indoor surfaces. Send us an [e-mail](#) if you would like to try this new product.

### Pest Alert: Eastern Tent Caterpillar

Look for silken webs in the crotches of plants in the Rose family such as Apple, Crabapple, and Cotoneaster. Lilacs may also be susceptible. The webs can be hand removed and the twigs sprayed with Insecticidal Soap to inhibit the growth of the ravenous caterpillars who feast on tender new leaves.



Web of Eastern  
Tent Caterpillar

It's a good idea to keep a pest and disease log to share with us. Make a

quick note of the date and any damage you notice and pass on the info. Timing is everything in the world of organics, and this will help us help YOU prevent plant damage in the future. Naturally, we will be scouting for pests and diseases as we work in each garden, but sometimes an extra pair of eyes right on the scene is very valuable.

**Quick Links**

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## **Pest Alert: Eastern European Sawfly on Mugo Pine**

This pest usually appears around Mother's Day to feed on new growth at the tips of Mugo Pines. However, it's here now due to the warm Spring. You'll see wriggling larvae, well disguised in the color of the pine needles. We spray with insecticidal soap or Aza-Direct, a neem oil product, to control infestations.



Hardly visible in tree

A second generation will appear in early summer, so we'll be on the look out then as well.

All of us at Pumpkin Brook Organic Gardening are concerned with your health as well as that of your plants. Please let us know if you see any of the pests described above and if we can help in any way.

**Sincerely,**  
Priscilla

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