

Control of ground ivy

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make two or three applications in the fall. Fall applications are generally more effective than spring applications. Also, there is lower risk of injury to desirable garden plants from herbicide drift with fall applications. The first application can be made in mid-September, a second in early October. As always, when using pesticides, read and follow label directions carefully.

Home owners that have Kentucky bluegrass have another option. They can use a mixture of three teaspoons of Borax to one gallon of warm water. Two or three applications may be needed. This mixture should be sprayed on bluegrass lawns only.

Once the ground ivy has been effectively controlled, the homeowner needs to use good mowing, fertilization, watering and cultivation practices to obtain a dense, healthy, competitive stand of turfgrass which should help prevent future weed infestations. (MJM)



Waste Collections

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• Items containing PCBs—

Ballasts from fluorescent lamps and small capacitors from appliances including radios. Please keep products in the original container and keep the label intact. If the label is destroyed or unreadable, label the products to the best of your knowledge. Open, leaking or rusted containers should be placed in a clear plastic bag during transport. Please, **do not mix** chemicals!

Please do **NOT** bring—

Latex Paint
Medicines
Fertilizers
Explosives & Ammunition
Antifreeze (*recycle*)
Used Oil (*recycle*)
Batteries (*recycle*)
General Household Trash or Business Waste

If you have questions on how to dispose of these items, call the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department at 441-8040. (LB)



Alice's Analysis

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Meeting, September 23 at the Lancaster Extension Office. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m.

Our next Council meeting will be September 22, 7 p.m. The program will be "Suitcase Showing of Textiles and Clothing" by Twyla Lidolph.

October 27 will be the Family and Community Education Club Achievement Day.

It is nice to be able to have my arm and hand free after my shoulder operation. My arm has been in a brace, tied to my ribs for four weeks. I'm doing OK and my movement is getting better. My doctor says I'm progressing nicely.

My thought for the month: "Whoever wishes to keep a secret, must hide the fact that he possesses one."—Johann Wolfgang Van Goethe.

Antlions: the good, the odd and the ugly

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pit, the larvae leave a narrow, irregular, twisted furrow in the soil that looks like doodling.

Antlion larvae do not seem to care about the type of soil in which they dig. Pits have been found in quartz sand, red sandstone, dust, humus, rotted wood, gypsum and coal ashes. The consistent requirement seems to be that the substrate must be composed of small, dry, loose particles. If you want to attract antlions, place sand under the eaves next to your house in an area that nearly always stays dry.

How do immature antlions move through the soil and construct their funnel-shaped pit? The shape of the larva's abdomen, with its relatively blunt anterior end gradually tapering toward the posterior enables the antlion to slide backward easily through the sand. The hairs on the antlion's body curve forward to help it move backward.

An antlion excavates its pit by using its oval-shaped abdomen as a plow and its flat head as a shovel for flicking sand upward. It circles backward through the sand and repeatedly flicks sand upward, raising its head above the soil surface.

If an antlion larva encounters a small pebble or other object when it is constructing its pit, it will attempt to flick the object out of its pit. If the object is too large to flick but large enough to move, it may literally be "pushed" up and out of the pit by the larva. When the pit is completed, the larva lies motionless on the bottom, concealed beneath the sand, with only its long, piercing mandibles ex-



Improve livestock water distribution on pastures

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distant areas incompletely.

Poor water distribution also causes transfer of nutrients resulting when animals graze one area and then travel a long distance from where they graze to drink. Manure and urine are deposited near watering sites or along the path to water. The nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients in these deposits are concentrated and wasted in an area with little grass. A more even distribution of this manure and urine would grow more grass.

How can you improve your pasture's water distribution? More ponds, windmills, wells and dugouts might be the answer. My preference, however, is to use a pipeline. The pipeline can be put almost anywhere, and water lines are less expensive than most people realize. Most areas can get pipe and frost-proof trenching for less than one dollar per foot.

Over time, pipelines pay for themselves with better grass and improved animal performance. (WS)

posed.

When an ant or other small insect accidentally steps inside the rim of the pit, it will slip on the soft sand particles on the side of the pit and fall to the bottom. The unfortunate victim usually becomes impaled by the antlion's piercing mandibles. But if it tries to escape, the antlion will flick sand and shower the prey. As this storm of loose sand falls on the slope of the pit, it speeds up the treadmill effect. Eventually the prey tumbles to the bottom toward the waiting antlion.

After the prey has been captured, the antlion drags the victim deeper into the sand where it sucks out its body fluids. The antlion then disposes of the carcass by flicking it out of the pit.

As the summer progresses, antlions get larger and construct a larger pit. When several antlions live near each other, they adjust the spacing between the pits so as not to interfere with each other. When the larva grows to its maximum size, it changes into a pupa and then an adult, a life cycle similar to that of a butterfly. Adults mate and females lay eggs in soft, dry soil.

Antlions are absolutely harmless and cause no damage to flowers, people or structures. They are highly beneficial and feed on ants and other insects that fall into their traps. It is best to leave them alone. But, it is interesting for kids (and adults, too) to watch them make their pits and catch their prey. You can speed up the process by dropping an ant or other small insect in their pit.

Oats for fall pasture or hay

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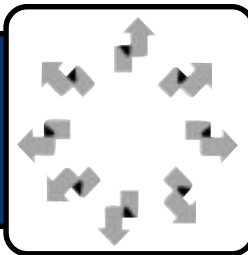
usually is best, but you can plant oats directly into wheat stubble or other crop residues if weeds are killed ahead of planting. Even flying oats onto corn fields severely damaged by weather or to be chopped early for silage can work. Avoid fields with herbicide carryover and topdress 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre unless the previous crop was heavily fertilized.

With good moisture, oats will be ready to graze six to eight weeks after emergence. Calves and yearlings can gain over two pounds per day. Be careful to avoid grass tetany on lush oat pasture; ask your veterinarian if you should supplement with magnesium. Also, don't turn out on oat pasture if livestock have been grazing short or dry pastures. Respiratory problems can occur.

For hay, cut soon after plants begin to dry out following a killing freeze or cut earlier if a desirable growth stage is reached. Oats can accumulate nitrates, so test hay before feeding.

If you have good soil moisture, give fall oats a try. Some of your best forage growth may still be ahead of you. *Source: Bruce Anderson, Extension Forage Specialist (WS)*

Miscellaneous



A place in the country

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particular maintenance, and preservation to include land use restrictions.

- Determine permit requirement, building setbacks, codes, easements, covenants and other circumstances surrounding your identified property as well as the property you are interested in.
- Enter into land purchases only when your requirements for water, sewage and accessibility are met and contingency is assured.
- Utilize an Attorney at Law to represent your interests when considering properties and when signing purchase agreements.

Practice being a good neighbor...take responsibility to maintain the quality of life you and your neighbors desire

- Establish good neighbor relationships. Practice citizenship, contribute to the community and respect neighboring properties and the rights of others.
- Respect trespassing laws and inform children about safety issues. Many times pastures and fields are inviting playgrounds full of potential risks, i.e. frozen ponds, large animals, rough terrain.
- Assume responsibility for sustaining land, water and environmental quality. Utilize educational programs and resources of Cooperative Extension, the Natural Resources District and Game and Parks Commission.
- Determine impact to others when you make decisions regarding your property. Examples include planting trees that eventually grow into power lines or create icy road conditions and snow drifts on public roadways and private driveways.
- Understand ownership responsibilities for pets, horses and other livestock. Loose animals cause safety concerns and overgrazing of your pastures can bring negative impact to adjoining property.
- Don't assume that complete freedom exists in the country side. Shooting firearms, various commercial activities, outdoor collections of vehicles and equipment are often viewed as nuisances distracting from the neighborhood.
- Acknowledge that expectations for snow removal on public roadways, emergency rescue, fire and law enforcement protection are much different in a country setting. Response times are longer due to distance, road conditions, etc.



GRG: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

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- AIDS
- Unemployment
- Incarceration
- Death of a parent

Education Series: Each series runs for nine weeks. Topics covered include stress management, legal concerns, grief issues, anger and coping with the challenge of parenting once again. Time is allowed each week for individual support. Child care is provided. *The following series have been planned:*

September 17

Children's Support Group: While grandparents are participating in the 9-week series, support group services are provided for grandchildren ages 5-12. Activities are provided to explore the areas of stress, relaxation, feelings, communication and the promotion of positive self-esteem.

Ongoing Support Group: After completion of the 9-week education series, grandparents have the opportunity for continued support, education and social interaction. Groups meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Child care is provided.

Registration: To register for the education series or for the children's support group, call 441-6105.

Sponsoring Agencies: The Lincoln Area Agency on Aging Volunteer and Multi-generational Services Division and Family Service are working together to provide services.

A goal of the **Lincoln Area Agency on Aging, Volunteer and Multi-generational Services Division** is to preserve and support the family, allowing the strengths of one generation to meet the needs of another and encouraging families to work together as a whole.

Family Service is a non-profit agency serving families with young and school-aged children. Family Service offers a variety of programs and services which strengthens and supports the family. (LB)

"Grandparenting's Not What I Thought It Would Be!!"

We understand there are a lot of questions. If you would like to gain support from other grandparents who are raising their grandchildren, plan to attend a 9-week education series beginning Wednesday, September 17, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

If you are interested, call Karen at 441-6105 to register. The 9-week session is free of charge. A support group for the grandchildren and child care are provided. (LB)