

Dealing with unwanted guests

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(moth balls) are hardly any better. Their primary usefulness is in generating repeat business for pest control industry. To be at all effective, they must evaporate rapidly, requiring frequent replacement. Aerosol dog and cat repellents may discourage bat use of a particular roosting spot for periods of up to several months. They have been used effectively to prevent bats from night roosting above porches. The spray is applied by day when bats are not present. Aerosol repellents are not an adequate substitute for exclusion in the case of day roosts and never should be applied when bats are in a roost. In many cases, suspending 2" wide by 7-10" long strips of aluminum foil or helium-filled mylar balloons at a roost will deter bats. Poisons used against bats pose serious health hazards to humans and are not effective in eliminating bat colonies. For this reason, there are currently no poisons or

chemicals licenced for use against bats. Furthermore, it is a direct violation of federal law to use a chemical in any way other than that which it is strictly intended. In most cases, the only safe, permanent solution is exclusion.

Do bats present a rabies danger?

According to the Center for Communicable Disease guidelines, a rabies exposure requires contact with an open wound or mucous membranes (eyes, nose, or mouth) with a rabid animal's saliva or nervous tissue. Transmission from an animal to a human through the air has never been recorded outdoors or in buildings, though there are two cases which occurred under extremely unique conditions inside caves. There is no evidence of transmission through contact with urine or feces.

* Netting available from: Internet, Tel:1-800-328-8456 (request 1/6" mesh size, order

#OV-7100)

For illustrated methods of excluding bats from your home and a detailed discussion of public health concerns, Merlin Tuttle's book *America's Neighborhood Bats* is an excellent resource and delightful reading. With generous use of color photographs, the book covers all of the most common bats of North America. This book can be found in our online catalog.

NOTE: For those residing in the United Kingdom, please note that bat exclusion without prior notification to the proper authorities is a punishable offense. The proper authorities to seek guidance from include: English Nature, Scottish Natural Heritage, The Countryside Council for Wales, or the Countryside and Wildlife Branch of the Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland. (SC)



Pollution prevention: it's everyone's issue

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public television.

* Request technical assistance from local experts.

In Lancaster County, several valuable resources are available to help you. The Nebraska Energy Office is currently offering low interest loans to businesses seeking to employ pollution prevention ideas which have high capital investment costs. The University of Nebraska offers technical assistance through their staff experts and also through Partners in Pollution Prevention (P3), a summer internship program for engineering students.

As students at the University of Nebraska, we took part in the 1999 P3 program and helped many Lincoln businesses reduce waste and work toward pollution prevention. One business is considering the use of a solvent still for process chemicals to replace their current disposal method. This could save them over \$5,000 annually on operating costs and reduce the amount of waste produced by the company. An area hotel is looking into an ozone laundry system. If the hotel implements this system, they'll reduce laundry water use by 50% and

chemical use by 60%. One supplier claims that switching to ozone laundry produces a gas savings of up to 90%. This new system results in large savings on chemical, energy and water expenses and conserves Lincoln's water supply.

P2 is everyone's issue. It's imperative that we all do what we can to create a safer, more stable and efficient society. Pollution prevention is one way. For everyone's sake, take advantage of National Pollution Prevention Week to discuss new efforts and praise the old ones.



Monarch butterflies and Bt corn

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dusted milkweed leaves, but the mortality was less than found in the Cornell study. They found 19% mortality vs. 0% mortality in the nonBt corn pollen treatment.

So the question is, what are the real effects of Bt corn on the monarch butterfly population? When Bt corn is used, fewer insecticides are used. When broad spectrum insecticides are used to control a pest, non-target species, like monarch butterflies and their larvae, are also killed.

So, using fewer pesticides should be a good thing for those non-target insects.

What can farmers do? If farmers are concerned about killing monarch butterfly larvae, they can choose to plant a nonBt corn hybrid on their border and end rows and effectively move the Bt pollen away from milkweed plants. More studies need to be done to look at the effect of Bt corn and non-target insects, including monarch butterflies.

The largest threat to monarch butterfly populations is due to habitat destruction and deforestation in their wintering habitat in Mexico. During the summer in North America, there are many other factors which reduce monarch butterfly populations, including mowing of weeds along highways, ditches and pastures. Source: Marlin Rice, Extension Specialist, Iowa State University. (BPO)



Prepare for school

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Encourage

Elementary and middle school children experience a different anxiety as they move from one grade to another. There are new schedules, class changes, teachers, friends and school facilities. Each school year is accompanied by a period of adjustment. Students need and want adult patience and encour-

agement.

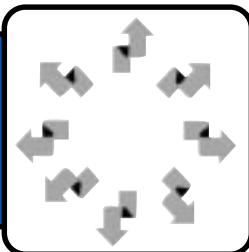
Plan

Conflicts surrounding back-to-school demands will be avoided if planning is done ahead of time. When school begins, spend a few hours on weekends cleaning and organizing wardrobes. During the week, make time the night before to lay out clothes, set the breakfast

table, prepare lunch, if necessary, and put books and lunch money in a designated place.

A good night's rest and a nutritious breakfast every day are essential if children are to be healthy and productive. It's important to go back to school prepared to learn. (LJ)

Miscellaneous



Upbeat science

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Embryology, where baby chicks are hatched right in the classroom, teaches responsibility, patience and expectation. Youth develop a healthy sense of awe, respect and tenderness toward living things. The miracle of life unfolds as third graders study life cycles and take responsibility for the care of fertile eggs throughout the 21-day incubation period, then the chicks after they've hatched.

Blue Sky Below My Feet relates science and space technology to everyday living for fourth graders. By using features from the space shuttle program as working models, students learn how forces, fibers and food affect their daily lives on earth and astronauts while in space. Youth learn about gravity and free fall, taste space food and communicate with NASA via the internet.

With an emphasis on water quality and conservation, 4-H Water Riches provides new and exciting experiences for fifth graders and solicits each student's commitment to preserve and conserve this important natural resource. Through demonstrations with the groundwater flow model, youngsters learn about the water cycle and how pollutants affect the water they use.

So—watch for your student's participation in 4-H School Enrichment. It's an educational experience for the whole family! (ALH)



Nobuko Nyman is awarded a "Certificate of Appreciation" from the YWCA's Parent Center Coordinator, Donna Delahoussaye. Nobuko, Nutrition Advisor with NEP has provided educational programs for teen parents at the Y for three years.



Calling All Artists!

2000 White House Easter Egg Artistry Contest

The 2000 White House Easter Egg Artistry Contest is underway! The American Egg board (AEB), in conjunction with the Poultry & Egg Division of the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, is again sponsoring this statewide contest. Nebraska artists are asked to decorate an egg to represent some special feature(s) of the state of Nebraska.

The winning egg chosen from the state of Nebraska, will be sent to the American Egg Board for inclusion in the 2000 Easter Egg Display at the White House in Washington, D.C. Entries for this year's contest are due September 9, 1999. For contest criteria or further information, contact Mary Torell by E-mail at mtorell2@unl.edu or call 402-472-0752.

Make It Yourself with Wool Contest

Entries for the Make It Yourself with Wool Competition are due October 3. The district contest for Lancaster County participants will be held at Nebraska City, Calvary Community Church on Sunday, October 17. Call the extension office for a registration form. (LB)