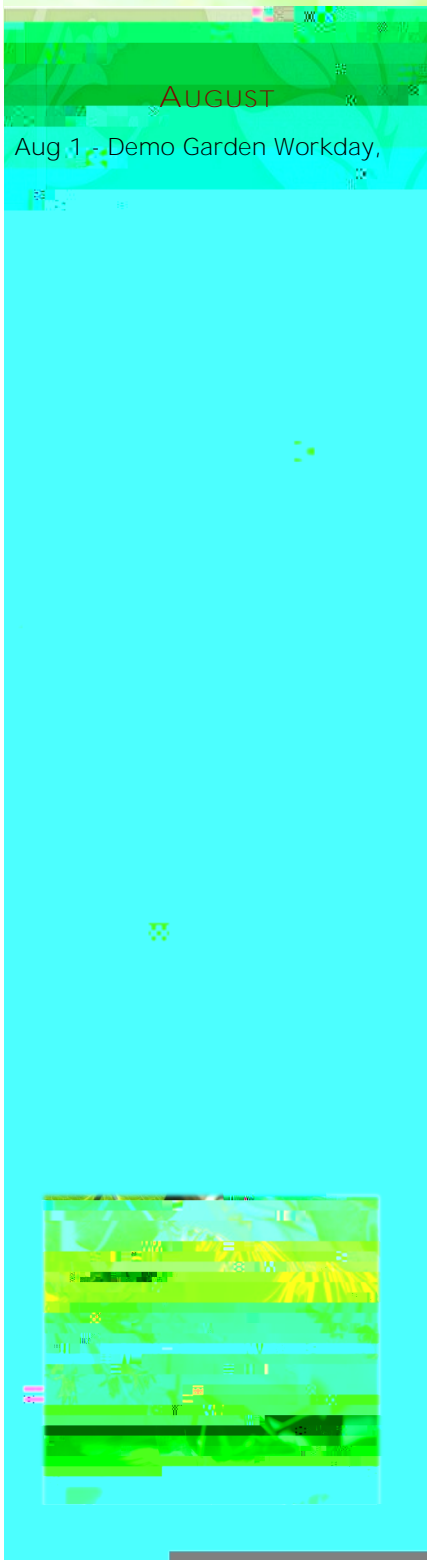


Gardening with the Masters



back
and forth through the air. It was really entertaining. Finally the kids got off
and more balloons were tossed back and forth before everyone started for
home.

At the second stop, as I was watching the same event happening, I got to
wondering who was going to clean up all the pieces of balloons. I sadly came
to the conclusion that no one was going to clean up. The next time it rained,
all of the hundreds of small pieces of rubber would wash down the storm
drains into our creeks and then into our rivers and lakes, where fish and oth-
er wildlife could ingest them. I wondered how many critters would die.

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of the balloons. The morning after the fireworks, there were pieces of
plastic, wax paper, and cardboard littering the street. As I was picking up the
debris in my yard, I again thought of the pieces washing into our streams
and harming our wildlife. These parents and adults missed a great teaching
moment; they simply could have cleaned up with their children after the fun
and potentially saved wildlife.

While summer might be viewed as the pinnacle season for most rewards for cool-weather vegetables. You might think the garden is winding down, but fast-growing leafy greens and root

newsletter, you learned that there are many pollinator visitors that help in
enough time, money or people to do an extensive study in one small area, so
this is where YOU can help. I love Citizen Scientist Projects that involve public
participation, and here are TWO that will prove to be fun for all ages.

The first project to participate in is the Great Georgia Pollinator Census, or
GGaPC. Many Georgia county extension offices are
taking part in the Pollinator Census on August 23 or
August 24. Coordinated by UGA Extension, this will
be the first of its kind in our state. Come join our
Master Gardeners of Cherokee County to meet and
record numbers and types of pollinators that visit

our gardens during late summer. An entomologist or bug guru to participate. Just come ready to count visitors on one
plant for 15 minutes. We will provide the data sheets and help you with plant and
visitor identification.

The second project to participate in is the Great Sunflower Project/Backyard Bee
Count. All sunflowers are beneficial to bees. But in 2008 an e-mail was sent to
people in the southeastern U. S. asking for volunteers willing to plant the
stem, is easy to grow, and the flower itself is hundreds to thousands of tiny
flowers. Each day more open providing a long-lived supply of nectar and pollen.

How can you participate in the Great Georgia Pollinator Census?

1. On August 24, 2019, join us at the demo garden at The Senior Center, 1001
Univeter Road, Canton, Georgia, or The Ball Ground Botanical Garden, Ball Ground,
Georgia 30107.
2. Both gardens will have three counting times that will start at 11:00am, 12noon and

Plots of green turf, small or large, can be useful assets in our landscapes. They serve to blend beautiful shades of green against other colors of nature and gardens, and a lovely green carpet of grass can visually lend a pleasant cooling effect.

Generally, we take growing turf for granted when ambient temperature, sunlight, and

rainfall is just perfect for us as well as the turf. Nevertheless, there are subsurface pests that enjoy turf even more than we do, because turf roots serve as their food source and a nice place to rear their offspring. Soil insects live their lives in a rich environment of carbon, microbes, water, and nutrients to carry out their existence.

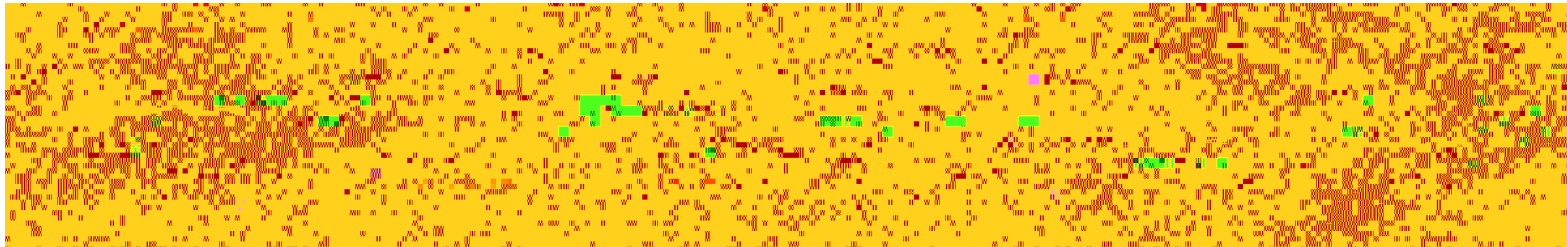
The grubs of the insects we are discussing damage turf below the ground, and then the adult beetles emerge in early to mid-summer to cause additional damage to plants above the ground. This may be where we take most notice of them when we see them feeding on roses, blackberries, grapes, and crape myrtles, just to name a few. During that time, those beetles begin to live out their life cycle by mating and laying eggs for conditions do not slow the process. Grubs are designed to lay eggs in our turf, and we will see the effects later in the year. Therefore, do not take them for granted if you value the quality of your turf.

In late May throughout June, the soil-inhabiting insects (many species of beetles, mainly belonging to one family) begin their metamorphosis from grub (larvae, third instar) to adult beetles as they emerge from the thatch layer of turf.

Regardless of the specific beetle, the grub larvae stages are similar in appearance, ranging from ½ to ¾ inch long. They are

white to grayish in color, with brown heads and six distinct legs. If you have

I have found _____ to be relatively problem-free. Occasionally,
I may have to stake a stalk or two, especially if we have heavy rain or wind. A true



Heavy rains at harvest can dilute the sugars in melons. Watermelons can reconcentrate sugar if left on the vine for a few dry days, but cantaloupes can

To harvest sunflower seeds, wait until the seeds are fully grown and firm, then cut the head, leaving one foot of stem. Hang in a dry, airy spot to finish ripening. Do not store sunflowers on top of each other or they may rot. https://secure.caes.uga.edu/extension/publications/files/pdf/C%201121_1.PDF

Winter-type pumpkins and squash, such as acorn, butternut, and spaghetti keep for several months in a cool, medium-dry basement, garage or tool shed. Allow the fruit to ripen fully on the vine, and cure in the sun to form a hard rind. Harvest before frost, and leave a piece of stem on each when they are cut from the vine. If the floor is damp, elevate them to reduce the possibility of rot. The best storage temperature is about 60°F. Keep basil, parsley, garlic, mint and sage producing by pinching of the top.

