

Mites are another plant pest to be on the look-out for right now. Mites are not actually insects but are closely related to spiders. They have eight legs, like spiders, and have a pair of needle-like mouthparts that are used to pierce plant cells. Once the mite has punctured the cell, the cell then ruptures and the pest is able to suck out the chlorophyll, a substance critical to the survival of plants. Mites are very, very small and typically not visible to the naked eye although their damage can be seen. They cause discoloration of foliage and a decrease in overall plant vigor. Severe infestations can be deadly to the plant. There are many different types of mites that affect many different types of plants. Spider mites are very common general feeders that attack most common deciduous and coniferous landscape trees and shrubs. Specific plants that may be infested are Spruce, Hemlock, Honeylocust, Arborvitae, Pine and Boxwood. If you notice that your plants are discolored or just looking unhealthy overall, please give Mead Tree & Turf Care a call so that a professional arborist can come out to your property and solve your tree care needs.

Brian Adams