

Garden Spot: What's Bugging You?

A Natural Approach To Pest Management, When Bugs Eat

By **Derek Thomas** - July 15, 2017



Matthew at Ginkgo Gardens, a great help with what's bugging me.

Recently, with all the talk about how our garden practices may be harming bees and pollinating has again become a hot topic. Products on the market address many areas of insect infestation

shared a passionate conversation with me of just how wonderful the ladybug is for the garden. ladybugs: "Down low, damp, and at dusk" he says. Keep them in your yard by releasing at dusk the plants that are infested. "I call them nature's Pac Men," says Matthew. "They go up the stem like Pac Man as they move to the top." What a perfect end to those spider mites and aphids.



Free Paint Recycling Event at DC Armory
 Saturday, November 18, 9 am - 1 pm [More Details](#)

Praying Mantis

The garbage can of the insect-eater insect world, the mantis lays unassuming Styrofoam-like eggs that hatch out for the hatch! The babies are born to eat insects. They are very territorial and when they hatch they stay away from each other. You see, they will even eat each other. Females are much larger than the males and eat their mate. Bugs? What bugs? These animals will live and breed in your garden and be

Special thanks to the staff at Ginkgo Gardens for educating me in the art of insects. Never too late and many others can be purchased or ordered from Ginkgo Gardens on the Hill, Frager's Garden, or on the internet. Words to the wise: buy your bugs local. I got my ladybugs from Ginkgo's and added them into my garden.

Happy hunting, Miss Ladybug!

Derek Thomas "The Garden Guy," principal of Thomas Landscapes, is an accomplished garden designer on HGTV's Curb Appeal and the DIY Network. His garden segments can be seen on YouTube. He lives in Washington, DC, and is a contributor to the Smithsonian's garden programs. He can be reached at 202-544-5182. You can find and friend us on Facebook at Facebook/Thomas Landscapes. Follow us on Twitter for garden tips.