



# Spring/Summer Aphids

## Symptoms:

Aphids can cause foliage to curl and distort unnaturally, which can further distort growth and put undue stress on the plant or tree. Perhaps most frustrating is the sugary waste (called honeydew), which drops from the insect leaving unwanted deposits on windows, cars and anything below it.

A kind of sooty mold often breeds on the honeydew deposits, causing the surface of the foliage to look black in appearance. This is typically the first warning sign for homeowners and property managers that aphid activity is present. Additionally, ants and hornets are naturally attracted to the honeydew deposits - increasing their population as well (creating a new problem).

Aphids are typically found on almost all types of plants and trees across Colorado including: aspen, red twig dogwood, elm, Norway maple and green ash trees (the most common ash tree in the Front Range). While green ash trees are susceptible to aphids, white and autumn purple ash are typically not affected, but should be inspected with the rest of your landscape.

## Treatment:

Treatment options include both soil injections and topical sprays - the latter becoming a less common application in an effort to help protect and preserve the pollinator population in Colorado.

