



## Did You Know. . . .

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. . . that the **Black Walnut** tree (*Juglans nigra*), although famous and valuable for its wood quality in the manufacture of furniture and veneers, also emits a toxin from its root system that can be detrimental to other nearby plants that share the same soil areas. Particularly susceptible are apple trees, laurels, rhododendrons, and tomatoes.

. . .that at least seven (7) kinds of borers attack our **dogwood trees**. The most common and serious of these seven is the flathead borer and the dogwood borer (*Synanthedon scitula*). The adult form of the dogwood borer is a clear-winged moth which resembles a wasp. It lays eggs on the bark and the larvae enter through trunk and limb wounds. These larvae feed in the vascular tissue of the tree (cambium), creating a powder-fine sawdust that may appear on the bark surface. Infested trees become weakened due to interrupted vascular flow. This insect is attracted to injured trees and trees growing in full sun. (*Perone*)

## Reminder About January Oak Gall Treatment

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In the last two newsletters I have discussed with you the opportunity to at last do something that offers good promise to significantly diminish or eradicate the new crop of insect-caused twig galls that grow to disfigure and debilitate so many of our oak trees. Already formed galls must fall away, but if this annual cycle is interrupted, the tree will in a few years become gall-free.

As a reminder, this soil drench of Imidicloprid is necessarily done in January to provide uptake time before the deposit of eggs in the new tender twigs. Please call our office for pricing and scheduling.

