

Dell J. Sadler III, Inc.

955 South Talbot Street
410.770.5882

dellsadler@dellsadler.com

**Natural/Organic Lawn Care
Landscape Maintenance**

St. Michaels, MD 21663

Visit our website at: www.dellsadler.com

**Tick Repellent Program
Natural Deer Repellent Service**

Monthly Newsletter

July, 2011

Volume 89

July Garden Tips

* Be sure to cut flowers with a sharp knife or shears. You don't want to damage the plant. Cutting on an angle will expose a larger absorbent surface area to water.

* Keep annuals blooming longer by pinching off the spent blooms. Snapdragons and petunias will especially benefit from your tender loving care.

* The Maryland Extension Service tells us that Japanese Beetles are going to be a big problem again this summer. (Aren't they always?)

However, they advise against using those beetle traps. They suggest that the traps actually lure more beetles to your property. The beetles feed on the attractant inside the traps, initially believing it's a food source.

* Asiatic lilies are one of the most popular plants for gardens in our area and now I know why. Last year, we planted several maroon lilies, which are beautiful. We also installed some of the bright orange variety, which are STUNNING! I cannot believe how vibrant this flower is. They're readily available in local nurseries and will make a colorful addition to any landscape bed. I want more!

A Personal Message

During the month of May, my company traveled like a band of gypsies. We were at three different locations with information about our programs and services.

I loved it. Each time we set up our show was unique and different. We met so many people at each location. Everyone was very kind and interested in our information. Thanks to everyone who stopped by to say hello. Here are some of the pictures we took from each of our shows.

We started at Eastern Shore Nursery on Saturday, May 7th. This show was the day before Mothers Day. Every plant that was purchased that day was sprayed with our natural/organic deer repellent at no charge.

Lots of Moms were surely pleased with their gifts the next day. Mike Hemming and his family are fifth generation owners of this beautiful local nursery.



On Saturday, May 14th, we sponsored the Secret Gardens of Oxford Tour. All proceeds benefited the Oxford Garden Club projects. We provided free bottled water and plenty of chairs in the park, right in the middle of town. We gave away that beautiful Weeping Cherry Tree you see in the picture.

And finally, on Saturday, May 28th, we were at Robin's Nest Floral and Garden Center. Owner Ken Morgan gave away beautiful plant prizes every hour. I had bottled water available for thirsty shoppers. We also gave away free hot dogs that day. (I ate three.)



Current Tick Activity

From all reports we've received, ticks continue to pose a major threat this summer. In fact, the University of Rhode Island now maintains a Tick Activity Resource Center. It provides warnings as well as the most up to date information on what you can do to keep you and your family safe from ticks. They sponsor alerts on local television stations that begin with, "The current tick activity in your area is..."

Great news for Rhode Island, but what about us?

Try going to their latest project, a new website, tickencounter.org. Every two weeks, this website is updated with new information about tick activity for every region in the country.

You can also protect yourself with our barrier tick repellent. It's guaranteed to be effective or we'll respray the problem area. In the years that I've offered this service, I've almost never had to retreat any property. We spray your lawn and landscape bed and wooded areas.

Additionally, we recommend that Damminix tubes be placed in areas of heavy tick activity, such as woodpiles. They are cardboard tubes which contain treated cotton, designed to kill ticks inside squirrel and mouse nests. The cotton isn't harmful to mammals, but it's deadly to ticks.

Your property needs to be treated once in the spring and once in the fall.

Who knew there are PINK poppies?

I just received an email full of rave reviews. We installed a wildflower meadow for a client last fall.

Her property is lush and beautiful, right on the water. There is a vast expanse of green grass that we maintain for her with our natural/organic lawn care program. However, she wanted to try something slightly different near the guest house on her property. She had always wanted color in her lawn. And, she really loves wildflowers.

So, we agreed on the area she wanted to devote to this project. It took time and careful planning. We began by taking soil tests. Determining the soil pH level was extremely important. We had to make sure that the pH was correct when planting delicate wildflowers.

Next, we bushhogged the selected area. All thatch and debris had to be completely removed. We also eradicated any remaining vegetation in the selected area. This took several sprays to completely eradicate the existing plant material.

While we were making sure the ground was ready, our client was also busy. She planned the colors of the meadow flowers. Her final choice was "Northeast Native Wildflower Mix with Native Grasses." It's a stunning mixture of blue cornflowers, and poppies and native grasses

This spring, we've made several trips to the property to check on the progress. It was a labor of love for the members of my company who assisted with this project. Installing the meadow was fun and unusual and it challenged us. We saw that the flowers and grasses were growing, so we were pleased and put it on the back burner.

Then, I received her email which contained the sentence which is the title of this piece. It intrigued us so much that we went back to the property and took these



We took these pictures on a beautiful spring day in May. Our client's friendly chocolate lab puppy kept us company as we walked around the meadow to view it from various angles.

The pale blue cornflowers looked surreal and almost cloudlike as we approached the meadow from the driveway. It was breathtaking.

Not only were there pink poppies, but red and orange ones as well. These pictures don't do the meadow justice. It's one of the most rewarding projects we've ever undertaken. When we reseed this fall, our client will be able to tweak the seed mixture to suit her tastes. Both the grasses and flowers come in a wide range of colors. We're using perennials, so they'll return next year.

