

# CCG Bug & Plant Disease Solutions



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## Keep Your Organic Garden Bug and Disease Free

As we all know, once our garden is planted the bugs are sure to come. When identified early, there are strategies one can use to get rid of the offending pest before the bug or disease has a chance to take hold. Practicing good garden hygiene is the first line of defense. When that isn't enough to control the problem, turn to insecticidal soap, neem oil, spinosad, and copper sulphate. These products are allowed at CCG and are widely available. Good luck!

### Insecticidal Soap

This is an easy way to keep *aphids* and *whiteflies* under control. You can buy a pre-mixed spray, but this is one of the easiest sprays you can make at home. Take a quart sized spray bottle (32 oz) and fill it with water. Add 1 tablespoon of pure castile soap and give it a shake. Spray the tops and bottoms of leaves, as the insect needs to come in contact with the spray for it to work. Do not use dish soap that has fragrance or a degreaser, as these can harm your plants. Use it as needed. Eco-friendly, economical and effective!

### Neem Oil

Neem is made from the Asian evergreen tree by the same name. It is available as a pre-mixed spray and a concentrate. Spray the tops and bottoms of leaves. It's effective in controlling *whiteflies* and *aphids* and is a *fungicide*, as well. Neem will not harm beneficial insects and can be used as often as necessary. Use neem during warm weather when bugs and diseases are more prevalent. Two for one!

### Spinosad

There are times when leaf cutting worms and beetles pay your garden a visit. When that happens, spray your plant with *Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew*. It is available as a pre-mixed spray and as a

concentrate. It is made from a bacterium that was found on a Caribbean Island. It can be used every 2 weeks to control these very destructive bugs. It is also available in a pellet form that can be sprinkled around your plants to control bugs in the soil. Look for a pellet made of spinosad and iron phosphate. This formula works on biting ants, too.

### Copper Fungicide

Some plants are prone to powdery mildew, rust, black spot, blight and wilt. When you encounter these issues, spray your plants with copper sulphate. Crops that typically have fungus issues, including cucumbers, squash and tomatoes, can be sprayed preventatively before the disease sets in. Copper sulphate is available in a pre-mixed spray and as a concentrate. Repeated treatments may be necessary on effected plants and after a heavy rain.

### Products We Like

These products have been effective at CCG. We hope you have good luck with them, too. Look for them at Lowe's, Farm and Garden, and online at Amazon. Here's the list:

*Dr Bronner's Pure Castile Liquid Soap; Captain Jack's Dead Bug Brew; Bonide's Bug and Slug Killer, Neem Oil and Copper Fungicide.*