Japanese Beetle: An Invasive Pest in Washington

Japanese beetle was recently found in Washington. **WSDA is asking for help in identification and eradication of this destructive pest.** You can help by reporting any Japanese beetles to WSDA and treating beetles (if found) to keep populations low. **Reporting can occur online at agr.wa.gov/beetles, by emailing PestProgram@agr.wa.gov, or calling 1-800-443-6684.**

If you find a beetle or a grub, report to WSDA. Then...
- treat adult beetles directly,
- treat grubs in the lawn.  

(see below)

Photos:  
Lawn: Kevin Frank, MSU  
Bugwood.org (Rose: Whitney Cranshaw; Adult, Larvae, Leaf: David Cappaert)

The Japanese beetle life cycle  
(Illustration by APHIS employee Joel Floyd)

**May to mid-July:**  
Treat lawn with ‘Preventative’ (green table)

**Other months:**  
Treat lawn with ‘Curative’ (blue table)

**All summer:**  
Kill adults (red table) or put insect into a bucket of soapy water

Match ‘Active Ingredient’ in table with the one on the product you are using

PREVENTATIVE pesticides for GRUBS need to be applied before adult beetles lay eggs in July & August. Kills eggs & helps control next year’s grub population. Labels often say ‘Season Long Control’. Many dry products must be watered-in with 1/2 inch of water.

**Examples:** GrubEx  
**Active Ingredient:** chlorantraniliprole

**Examples:** Insect Killer Soil & Turf; 12 month Tree & Shrub Protect & Feed  
**Active Ingredient:** thiamethoxam, imidacloprid, pyrethrins, cyfluthrin, tau-fluvalinate, zeta-cypermethrin, permethrin, spinosad, azadirachtin

**Example:** BeetleJus  
**Active Ingredient:** Bacillus thuringiensis ssp. Galleriae

**Apply to control ADULT beetles.**

**Examples:** All-in-one Rose & Flower Concentrate; Vegetable & Garden Insect Spray; 3-in-1 Insect, Disease, and Mite Control  
**Active Ingredient:** thiamethoxam, imidacloprid, pyrethrins, cyfluthrin, tau-fluvalinate, zeta-cypermethrin, permethrin, spinosad, azadirachtin

**Example:** BeetleJus  
**Active Ingredient:** Bacillus thuringiensis ssp. Galleriae

**Reapply frequently according to label.**

CURATIVE pesticides kill GRUBS on contact and are a good choice to apply for large grubs present from September to May. Labels often say ‘Quick’ or ‘24-hour control’. Many dry products must be watered-in with 1/2 inch of water.

**Examples:** Quick Kill Lawn and Landscape Insect Killer; Lawn Insect Granules  
**Active Ingredient:** trichlorfon, zeta-cypermethrin, carbaryl. Bifenthrin, permethrin, cyfluthrin only control adult beetles; these products should be combined with other active ingredients that control the grub. Mow lawn before applying to avoid flowering weeds.

**Examples:** Grubhalt  
**Active Ingredient:** Bacillus thuringiensis ssp. Galleriae

**Apply mid-July to mid-August**