

## **Japanese Beetles**

The Japanese beetle is a serious pest of turf and ornamental plants. Grubs feed on the roots of turf grass and adults feed on the foliage of more than 300 plant species. Japanese beetle adults are approximately 3/8 inches in length. The front of the beetle is dark metallic green. Its wing covers are a metallic dark tan. The larval or grub stage of the Japanese beetle is a "C" shaped white grub that lives in the soil. Its primary food source is grass roots.

**Timing pesticide application:** Timing of pesticide treatment is important. Larger grubs are difficult to control with insecticides. Preventative chemicals should be applied early, May through July, when eggs are first hatching and the grubs beginning to feed.

Life cycle of Japanese beetle: egg, grub, and adult stages. In June, the grub turns into a pupa. It emerges from the soil in late June and July as an adult, to mate and lay eggs. Females live for a few weeks feeding on trees, shrubs and roses in the morning, returning to the turf in the afternoon to lay more eggs. Eggs hatch in July and grubs are almost full grown by late August.

**Treatment options:** Deephaven has received a bid to treat the public parks in an attempt to control the infestation of Japanese Beetles in the city parks.

Research has shown that the best way to treat the infestation of Japanese Beetles is to control the beetles through broad involvement of neighborhoods. This means residents need to take measures to treat their own property for the beetles and grubs.

The City is exploring options for controlling the spread of Japanese Beetles and would be interested in citizen input as we move forward in considering our options.