

(revision date:4/30/2013)

## ***Common Cultural: Desiccating wind***

*Use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for successful plant problem management.*

### ***Biology***

Dry, cold wind, usually from the north, results in desiccation (dehydration) of plant tissues. During periods when the soil is frozen, water movement slows or stops in plant tissue, enabling wind to dehydrate the foliage. Damage typically occurs on only one side of the plant. Symptoms (leaf scorch or death, branch or shoot tip dieback) may not be evident immediately after the damage occurs, but may appear some time later.

### ***Management Options***

#### **Non-Chemical Management**

- ~ Place evergreens in areas that minimize their exposure to sun and wind. If this is not possible, provide shading or a windbreak during the winter months.
- ~ Water properly throughout the spring, summer, and fall. Check soil moisture for evergreens and plants under eaves, and water when necessary.
- ~ Select plants hardy for the local climate and soil conditions, especially native plants.

*Select non-chemical management options as your first choice!*

#### **Chemical Management**

***IMPORTANT: Visit Home and Garden Fact Sheets for more information on using pesticides***

None recommended

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*Images*



*~ Caption: Winter desiccation on rhododendron  
~ Photo by: R. Maleike*



*~ Caption: Cedar damaged by desiccating wind  
~ Photo by: R.S. Byther*