

Marks Remarks by Mark Rowen Lincoln County Educator 10-14-10

Arrangements have been made for a SHIINE volunteer from Sioux Falls to be present in Canton for Part D Plan Finder work. Ron Moegenburg, a volunteer, will be at the Canton Library on Wednesday, December 1 and Wednesday, December 8 from 10-4pm.

The Lincoln County Extension office will be taking appointments for Ron. The day will allow just 7 – 45 minute appointments, three in the morning starting at 10:00 AM, with four in the afternoon starting at 1:00 PM. Any Medicare client interested needs to call immediately because appointments will be scheduled on a first come first served basis. The Lincoln County Extension number is 605-764-2756.

We have had a number of phone calls concerning the Asian lady beetle. These beetles look like our own lady bug but are native to Asia, and like ours are predatory and help substantially with aphid control. These insects are a nuisance about this time of year because they want to get indoors for survival. The beetles do not reproduce while indoors, they simply are trying to survive until spring is here. Beetles will usually congregate around windows and doors on the southern exposure of buildings, especially during warm fall days. They will be looking for cracks and crevices in the home or building to enter and stay for winter. The best form of deterrent is to seal exterior cracks and openings with caulk or foam. This keeps the insects from entering the structure.

There are labeled treatments for the home but are not real effective once the bugs are inside. As with any chemical treatment, follow the directions carefully.

The best way to handle these intruders is to place a nylon sock over the opening of your vacuum cleaner, secure it with a rubber band and vacuum the critters into the sock. Then quickly shut off the machine, release the rubber band, tie the sock shut and put the bugs in the trash. They can be released outdoors if destroying is not desired.

There is no easy fix to this problem, but the nuisance time is short for the assistance they provide for control during the summer. For more information about these and other topics contact the Extension office at 7645-2756.