CONTROLLING MOSS, LICHENS AND ALGAE ON YOUR DECIDUOUS ORNAMENTAL SHRUBS AND TREES

Have you noticed crusty gray growths on the trunks, limbs and twigs of your deciduous plants, or maybe its green, yellow or white? Chances are that what you are seeing is a form of Moss or Lichen. The good news is that they do not harm the plant! They manufacture their own food. But, if you want to get rid of it there are a couple of things you can do.

**Cultural Control:**

- Opening the canopy of the plant up for better air circulation and light.

- Often established slow growing shrubs are prone to having a moss/lichen growth. Improve the vigor of the plant by proper fertilizing and watering.

**Chemical Control:**
- Lime Sulfur - applied when the plant is dormant. Never during the growing season as it can/will injure the plant.

- Copper fungicide - applied when the plant is dormant.

After spraying the plant(s) with the above suggestions the moss/lichens will remain attached and visible for sometime. They will eventually fall off.