

Two weeks ago, I gave you several handy household tips. As promised I am going to tackle the outside this week as well as a few general tips that may make your life easier. I know that the season to be outdoors is swiftly coming to an end but that is only for this year. You can always hang on to these ideas and put them to use next spring and summer.

Before planting those spring and summer plants, try placing wet newspapers in layers around the plant. Overlapping as you go, Once done, add your mulch and what you will end up with is a weed free setting because weeds shouldn't grow through wet newspapers.

Here are several more ideas:

1. To get rid of ants, most everyone knows that if you sprinkle either cornmeal or oatmeal around the ant hills you will eventually get rid of them.
2. For fruit flies or other flies, in a small glass put $\frac{1}{2}$ in of Apple Cider Vinegar add 2 drops of dish detergent and mix well. Flies are typically drawn to this mixture and next thing you know, you'll have a glass full of flies. Much better option than hanging fly strips which will stick to your hair when you walk by, not to mention how nasty they look.
3. Have a problem with squirrels? Try shaking some cayenne pepper around your plants. It won't hurt your plants but will work great keeping those pesky rodents away.
4. For keeping mosquitos away try using a dryer sheet in your pocket. I have no idea if it works but it sounds good and much less expensive than other alternatives such as bug sprays.

That is about it for the outside tips however I have several general tips that I would like to share. Have you ever dropped a glass and wondered if you got all the pieces picked up. Well if you run a wet cotton ball or qtip over the area where you dropped it, you are sure to pick up some tiny pieces you would otherwise not have found.

For you ladies out there, you know that fall and winter are big static cling months Attach a small safety pin to the seam of your slip or the hem line of your pants and they won't cling. . I know I will be trying this tip. Every year you hear about houses burning down due to dryer fires. Here is one way to keep the waxy build up from dryer sheets to a minimum. Every 60 months clean the filter with a toothbrush and hot soapy water. I think this last tip is my favorite and I wonder why I had not thought about it earlier. This is another tip for the ladies. You know that old bottle of unused conditioner that you didn't like, well why not use it to shave your legs. Obviously it

cheaper than shaving cream since it's on hand and it will leave your legs really smooth.

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