

Gloeocapsa Magma

What is it, Why is it, How do we deal with it and
How to we design against it.....





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Learning Objectives

- What is this black growth about.
- What it isn't.
- What promotes and what retards it.
- How do we remove it.
- How do we prevent it from returning.
- How do we prevent it in new design.



Presentation Style

- I am going to present in a fashion that explains how this alga works on other substrates that we are also familiar with.
- If the substrate has a host material of calcium carbonate....It's a problem.
 - Limestone
 - Marble
 - Cement
 - Mortar



Gloeocapsa Magma

- Kingdom = Bacteria
 - Basically, it is a blue-green algae. (NOT A BLACK MOLD)
 - This is a world wide concern.
 - It began regionally in the southeastern United States as a problem and is now spread to the Northeastern states.
 - Feeds off of: Calcium carbonate.
 - Needs moisture, light and food.



What is It



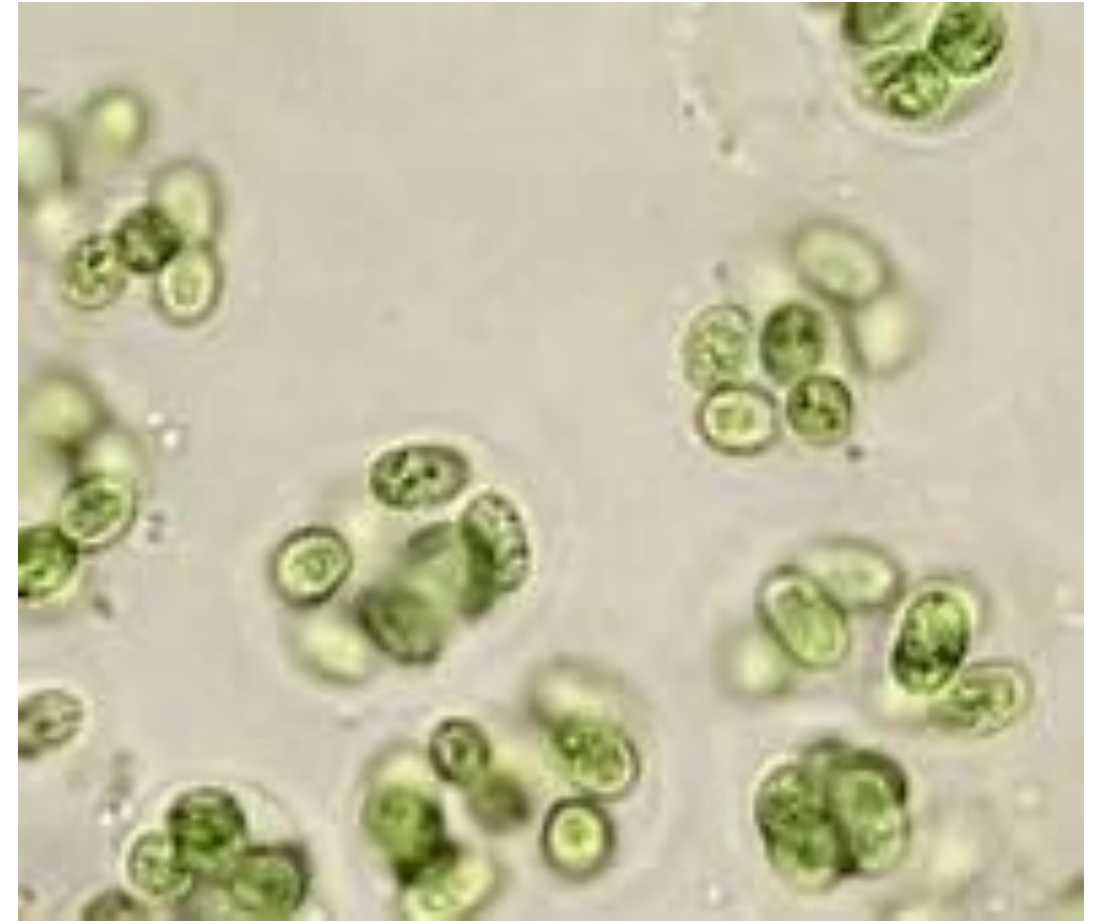
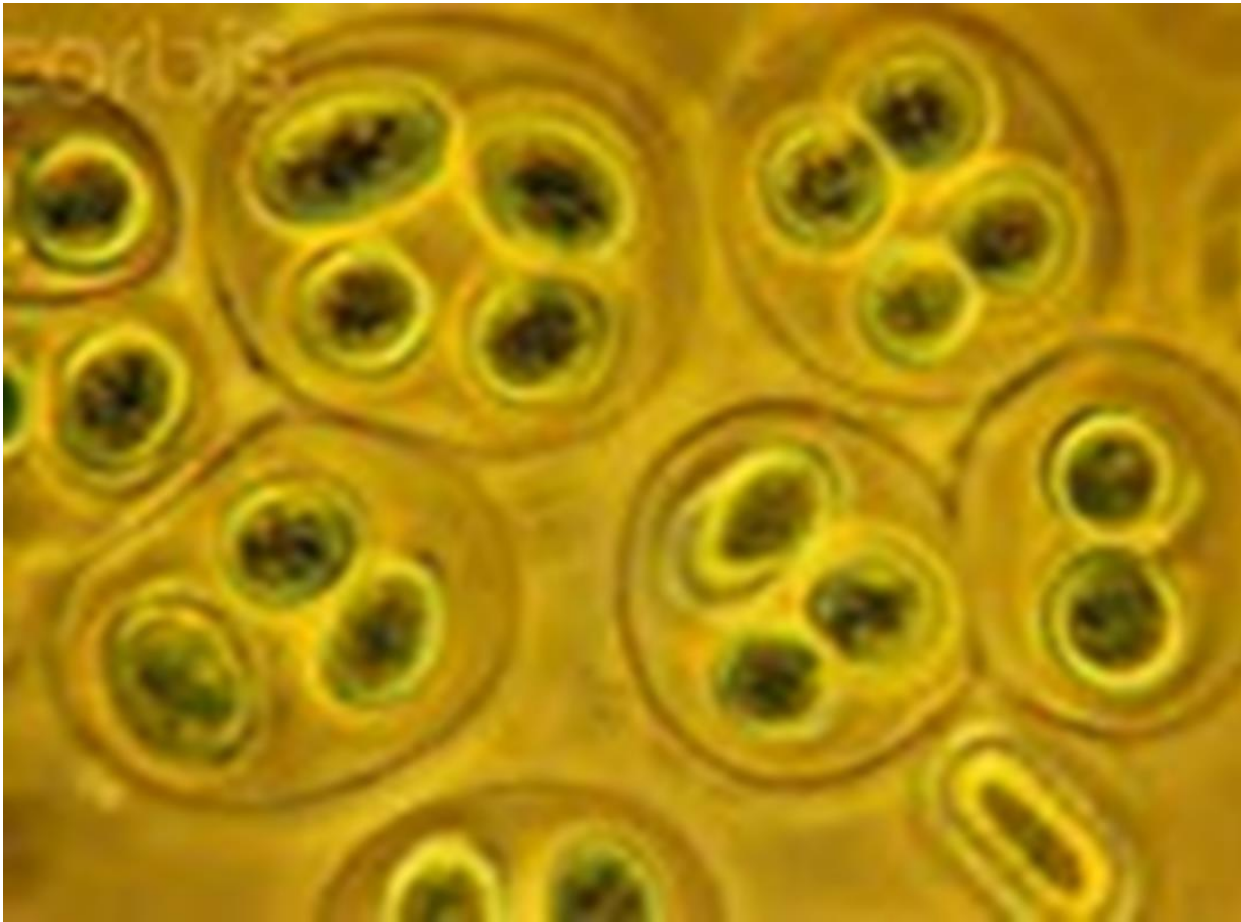
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GLOW CAPS



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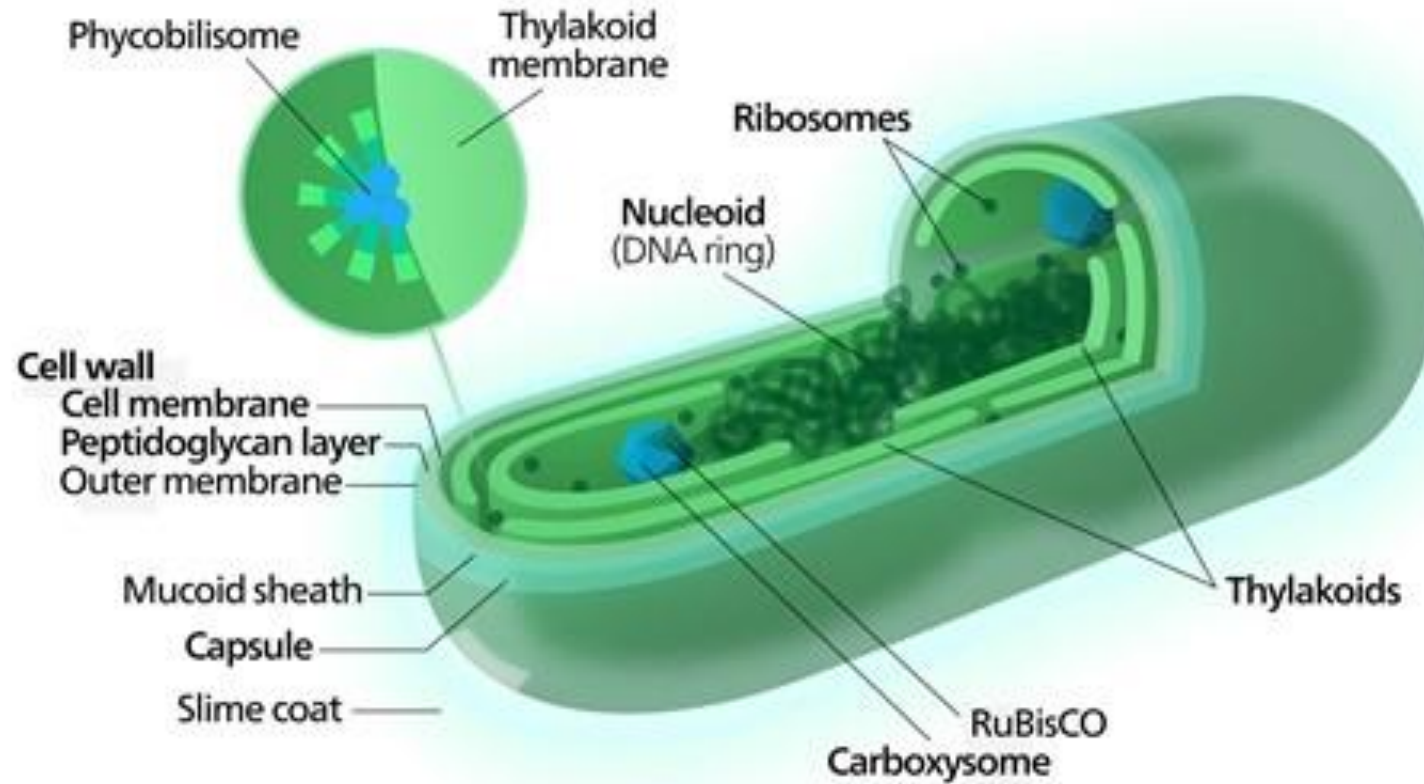
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Cell Structure





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Sporulate



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Where is it



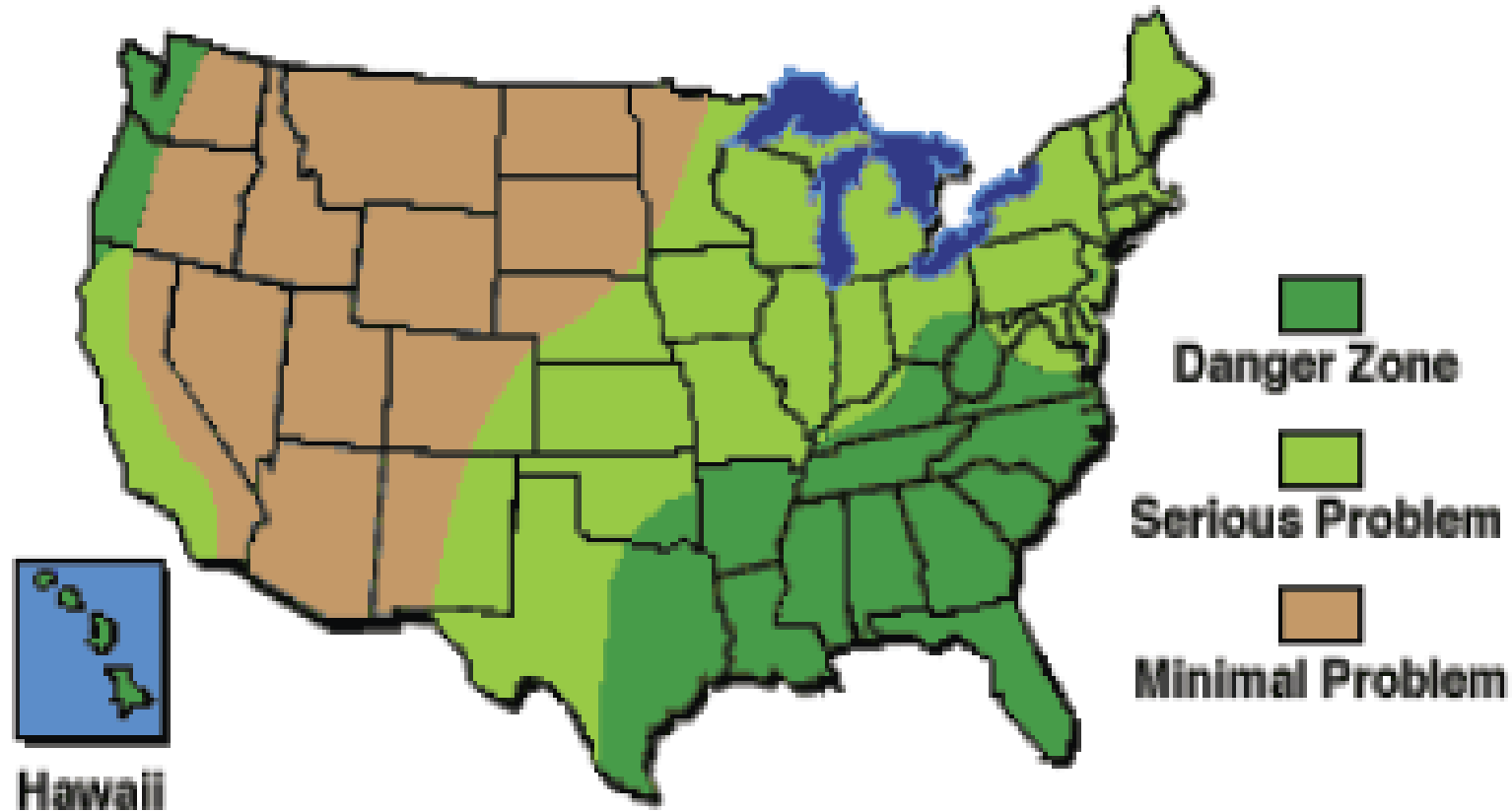
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Algae Danger Zone Map





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What Promotes It



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What Retards it



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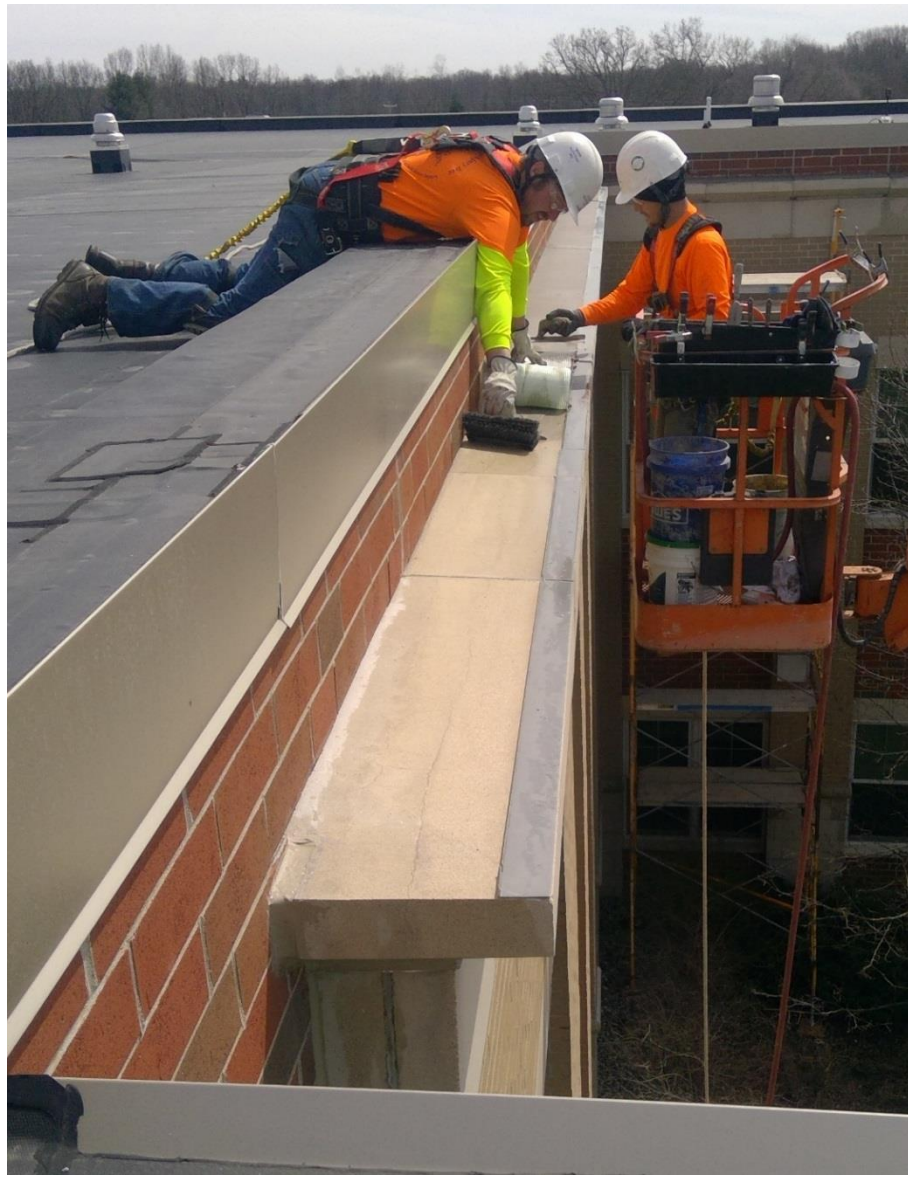


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Removing it



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2008 ----- 2016



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2011 ----- 2016



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Killing

- Chemicals used to get rid of blue-green algae blooms includes: calcium hypochlorite, copper sulfate, cupriade, and simazine.





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Preventing it

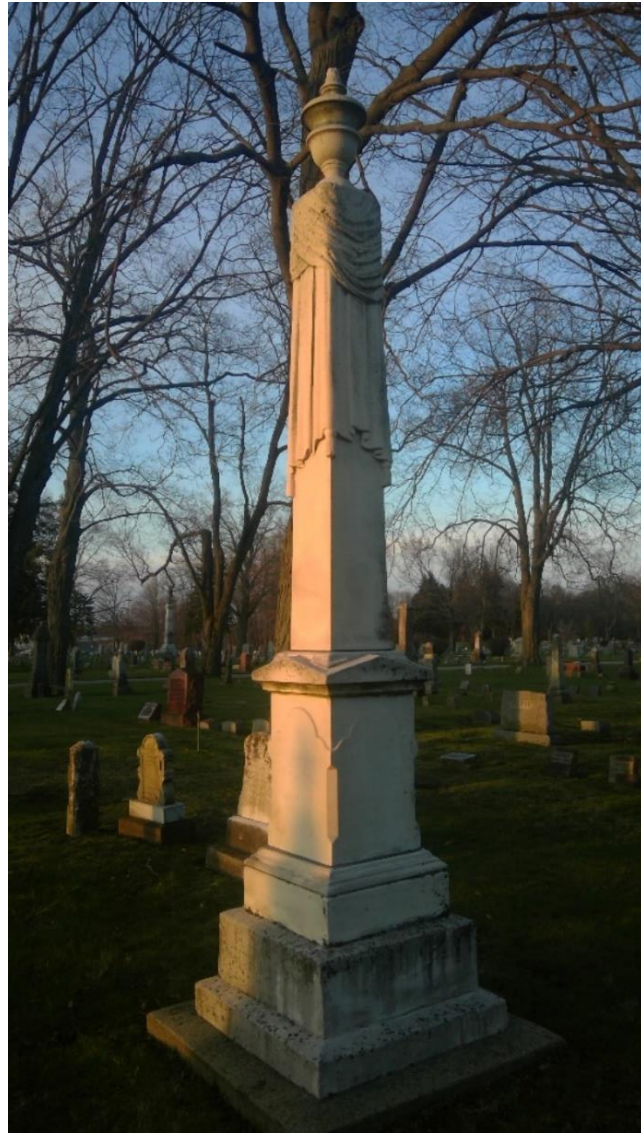


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Oxide Wash Down

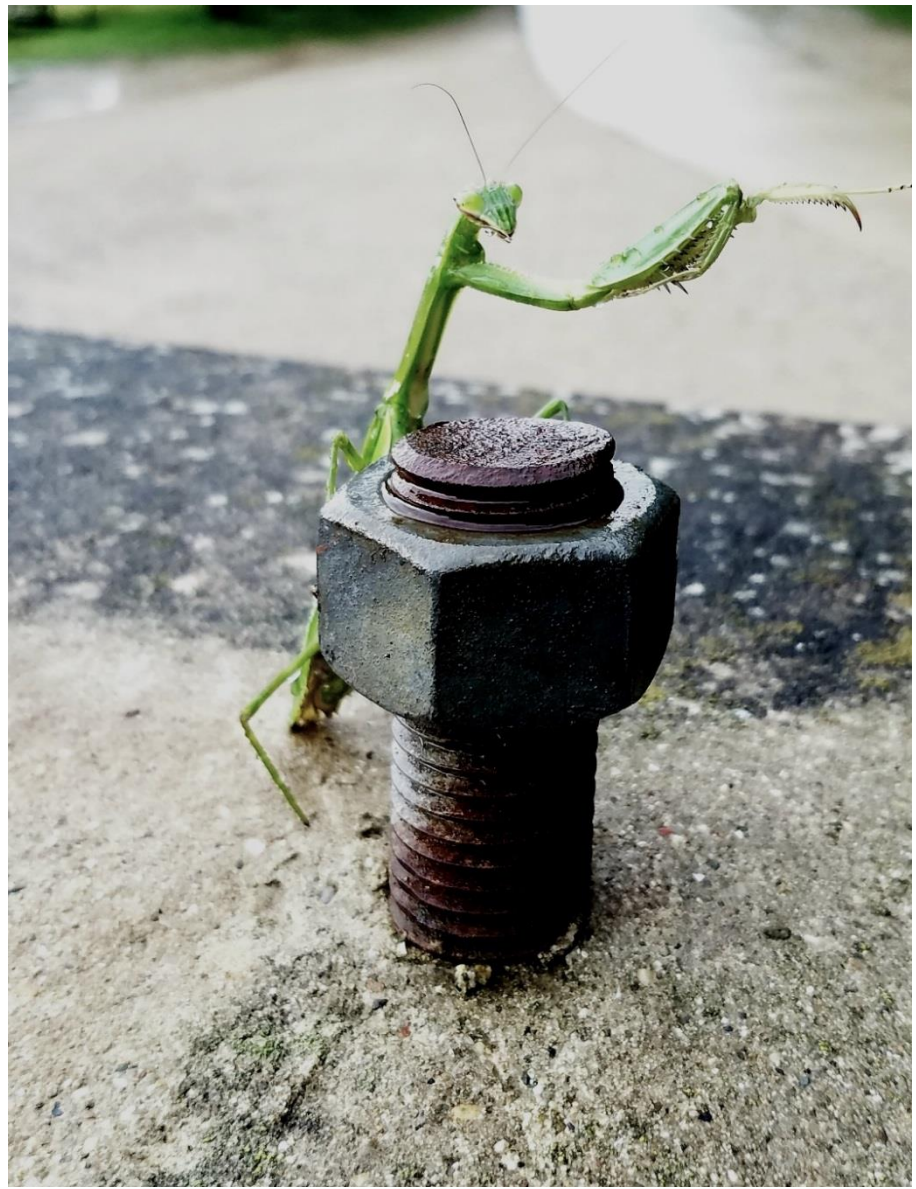


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Active Killing Agent



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Improvements or Repair

- Install drip in overhangs.
- Reverse slope caps.
- Caulking;
 - Use neutral cure silicone.
- Algae Killing.
- Seal.
- Zink Strip Installation.



Killing it Right and Wrong

- Round 1
 - Kill it without damaging
 - The Material itself
 - Glass
 - Aluminum
 - Steel
 - Surrounding media
 - Sealants & gaskets
 - Landscaping
 - Air quality
 - Saturate
 - Consider just what your using



Round 2

- Scrape
- Brush
- Rinse
- Power Wash, super heated or low pressure steam
- Stain removal



- Round 3
 - Moisture reduction. Penetrating sealer. Solvent based.
 - Consider how the façade will look on wet days.



- Round 4
 - Flashing systems
 - Zink, Lead, Copper.



Specification & Repair Considerations

- Noise disturbance
- Not repairing the sealants
 - What's going on behind the stone and secondary waterproofing
 - Continued Cast stone saturation
- Just washing concerns
 - Spreading the alga (spreads growth)
 - Erosion of the cast stone (accelerates future growth)
- Competitive Bid
 - You DO get what your paying for so look at the inspectors qualifications.



Where to GO from here?

- Design with water run off direction in mind
- Provide greater overhangs
- Consider sealant selection
- Flashing overhang
- Biocide in concrete mix
- Zink additive into the concrete mix
- Sealer application
- Maintenance guide to the owner





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