

## A SUMMER GREENHOUSE CHECKLIST

*Joseph J. Maisano, Jr.*  
*Extension Agent—Horticulture*

While visiting many greenhouses, I find hazards which can be avoided if a little extra planning and care are taken. During the summer when the rush is over, look around your place of work and see where it can be improved. After it is cleaned up, you will be glad you did it. Look for:

- Fans not protected inside and out with guards.
- Wire connections not made in electrical boxes or grounded properly.
- Tools scattered about the greenhouse rusting away and can't be found when needed.
- Dangerous pesticides such as insecticides and fungicides left on benches or on the ground.
- Flower pots, flats and other debris in walks or under benches that can harbor pests.
- Hoses lying in dirty, muddy walks.
- Plumbing poorly installed, a hazard to hoof and head.
- Automatic watering systems contaminated through lack of care.
- Fertilizer injectors not installed with a backflow preventer.
- Walks often very slippery. Use copper sulphate, thiram or sand to control algae.
- Fire extinguishers lacking.
- Sick plants and trash under benches that could perpetuate problems.
- Broken glass.
- Hanging and blowing plastic which is unsightly and unneighborly.