



EARTHWORMS

Lumbricus spp.

EARTHWORMS ARE NOT NATIVE TO WISCONSIN'S FORESTS.

Native earthworms were destroyed during the last ice age, thus forests as we know them evolved without earthworms. Earthworms consume fallen leaves which provide the proper condition for tree seedlings and other native plants to grow. Earthworm-invaded forests are found throughout the Northeast and Midwest regions of the United States; they are easily spotted by the lack of leaf litter, and often by the presence of invasive plants.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- While we don't have a way of ridding the forests of worms once they are established, we can keep them from spreading.
- Don't release live bait on land or in the water.
 - Dispose of live worms in the trash.
 - Clean your shoes and tire treads - Don't spread worm eggs!
 - Keep your compost contained near forests.

Spread The Word
Contain Your Crawlers!

Keep Worms out of Wisconsin's Woods!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://dnr.wi.gov> Search "invasive"

Photo: WI DNR
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FR-494b 2012



ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

Anoplophora glabripennis

BASIC ID

Adult beetles are jet black with white spots, long antennae, and are up to 1 1/4" long. The worm-like larvae are cream-colored, can be nearly 2" long, and are found under the bark of many species of trees.

HISTORY

Native to Asia, this insect was probably imported in cargo shipment packing material. It hasn't been found in Wisconsin, but occurs in Illinois and New York.

HABITS

Eggs are laid on trees in the summer. Larvae hatch and feed under the bark in the summer and fall. Adults emerge from trees in the spring through large round holes. There is probably one generation per year.

MANAGEMENT

Contact the Plant Protection Section (DATCP) at 1-800-462-2803 or your regional DNR forest health specialist.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/alb

Photo: Kenneth R. Law,
USDA APHIS PPO

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FR-218t 2003

EMERALD ASH BORER

Agrilus planipennis

BASIC ID EAB lives most of its life unseen inside ash trees. The flat, pale larvae make S-shaped tunnels under the bark while feeding on the tree's tissues. EAB adults exit the tree May - July as narrow, metallic green beetles about 1/2" long.

HISTORY Native to East Asia, EAB was unintentionally imported in the wood of shipping crates. It easily moves to new areas in firewood and nursery stock. It has been found in several states, including Wisconsin, and in Canada. All native ash attacked by EAB are killed within a few years. Millions have died already.

HELP SLOW THE SPREAD OF EAB Instead of looking for the insect, look for signs of it and symptoms on ash trees. EAB is a master hitch hiker, so **don't move firewood!**

REPORT EAB 1-800-462-2803

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: emeraldashborer.wi.gov

Recycled paper Photo: www.forestryimages.org

FR-218t 2009



COMMON REED GRASS

Phragmites australis

BASIC ID

This perennial reed grass, with gray-green leaves, is found most often in large colonies, ranging in height from 6' to 13'. It has a large light-brown to purple flower spike that appears between July and September.

IMPACTS

Every continent except Antarctica has native phragmites species, but research indicates that most aggressive stands are not native. It is found most commonly in and near marshes, swamps, fens, shorelines and roadside ditches, growing in thick patches. It blocks out native species.

MANAGEMENT

- Apply herbicides to young leaves or cut stems
- Cut repeatedly over several years

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive

Photo: Kelly Kearns,
WI DNR
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ER-106W 2003

JAPANESE STILT GRASS

Microstegium vimineum

BASIC ID

This annual grass looks like a delicate bamboo and can grow up to 3' tall and form dense mats. The stripe of silvery hairs along the midrib of the upper leaf is distinctive. 1"-3" flower spikes appear in September and it sets seed by October.

FACTS

This native of Asia has high seed potential and prefers moist soils in disturbed areas such as floodplains, riverbanks, roadsides, and moist woodlands where the seeds are easily dispersed by water. This presents a major threat to native riparian and forest vegetation.

MANAGEMENT

- Hand pull small populations or mow when blooming before seeds set.
- Herbicide application

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives>

Photo: Luke Flory, Indiana University
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PUB-FR-478 2011



GYPSY MOTH ADULT

Lymantria dispar, L.

BASIC ID

The brown, 1" male is similar to many native moths. The female is 1 1/2", white with a black V-shaped marking on the forewing.

HABITS

Adults cannot feed and live only to mate and produce eggs. Males fly in the afternoon in late July-early August looking for females. While females have wings, they cannot fly. They attract males by releasing a scent that the male detects with its feathery antennae.

MANAGEMENT (ADULTS)

The presence of many male moths indicates that a population is growing and could become a problem. Destroy egg masses after the moths have disappeared to lessen chances of a possible outbreak the following spring.

For more information visit: <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov> or call 1-800-642-MOTH (6684)

Photo: Forestryimages.org
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FR-218b 2006



WILD PARSNIP

Pastinaca sativa

BASIC ID

The first year's rosette has 6"-18" compound leaves. The flower stalks are hollow, grooved, and grow about 4'. Umbrella-like clusters of yellow flowers form large seeds (.25") that are flat on one side and have four curved ribs on the other.

FACTS

Native to Eurasia, this plant spreads by seed in open habitats. CAUTION! If plant juices come in contact with the skin in the presence of sunlight, a painful burn or blistering can occur resulting in a skin discoloration for several months.

MANAGEMENT

- WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING!
- Cut entire root below the ground
- Prescribed burn with spot herbicide follow up
- Mow to remove flower heads around July 1

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives>

Photo: WI DNR

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PUB-FR-218t 2011



GARLIC MUSTARD

Alliaria petiolata

BASIC ID

This cool-season, biennial herb grows 12"-40" tall, has triangular shaped leaves with toothed edges and smells of garlic when crushed. It has clusters of small flowers with 4 petals. First year plants are low rosettes with rounded leaves.

HISTORY

An invasive European species, it prefers forested areas. Rapidly spread by seed, it is a serious problem in forests in eastern and southern WI and is spreading elsewhere.

MANAGEMENT

- Hand pull before flowering or pull and bag up when flowering
- Apply herbicides in early spring or late fall
- Prevent any plants from going to seed

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/>

FR-218m 2009



Photo: Joanne Kline, WI DNR

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