

The Invasion of Asian Jumping Worms (AJW) in New York

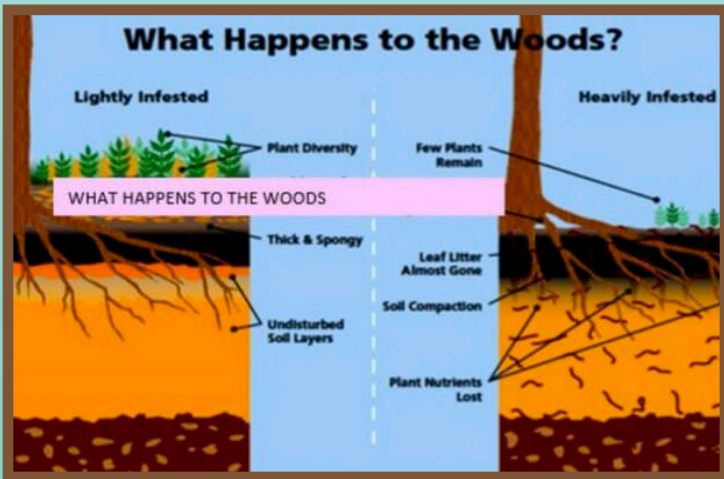
By: Tara Roy, Nick Rodano, & Logan Collier

WHAT IS IT?



The Asian Jumping Worm is a small invasive worm from Southeast Asia that lives in soil

WHY CARE?



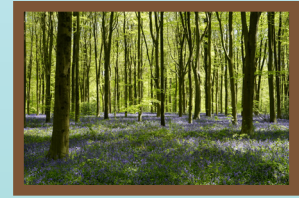
- AJW's devour organic matter too quickly
- Deprives soil of nutrients needed for plants and other life to grow
- Excrement over fertilizes soil changing its chemistry dramatically
- Affects forest growth
- Easily confused with less harmful earthworms

HOW TO ADAPT

Small Scale- Use charcoal, mustard powder, or water in the garden to surface them, don't use them as bait for fishing

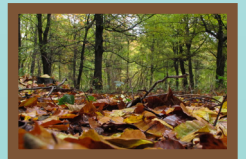
Large Scale- Plant pine trees & grasses like big bluestem, have chickens and moles on the property as predators for control

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?



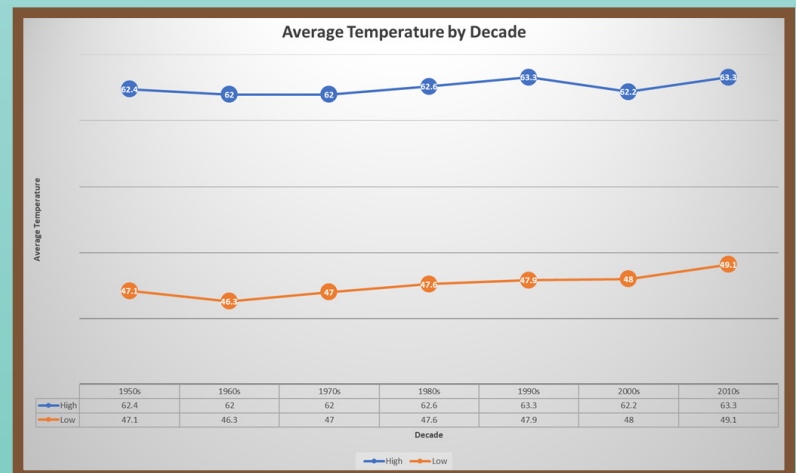
Gardens and Woods!

WHAT DO THEY EAT?



Soil Organic Matter, Mulch, and Leaf Litter

WHY ARE THEY HERE?



- Represented in the graph above is the rise in (Poughkeepsie, NY) average high / low winter temperatures over the decades.

- Average winter temperatures in NY and the Northeast are increasing due to climate change allowing AJW who once stayed closer to the equator a chance to move North. The AJW is usually killed by the first winter freeze, but as this freeze arrives later and later, they have more time to reproduce and leave more cocoons to hatch in the spring when the temperatures reach 50° F. Average high in Poughkeepsie in winter is 45°F.