



FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION
of WISCONSIN

Woodchips

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Jumping Worms Are Eating — And Altering — Wisconsin's Forest and Garden Soils

After months of cold and snow, the arrival of mild spring weather is beckoning gardeners around Wisconsin. Yet increasingly, green thumbs are being tested by invasive pests that can wreak havoc on the plants they prize. Among the invasive species challenging ever more Wisconsin gardeners each year are a group of earthworms in the genus *Amyntas*, commonly known as jumping worms.

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Brad Herrick, an ecologist at the UW-Madison Arboretum, explains the basic biology of earthworms and how to identify different kinds. Herrick focuses on non-native, invasive species of jumping worms and discusses ways to prevent them from spreading from one environment to another. [Watch Video](#)

In the News

After a Century in Storage, Wood from Madison Lab Being Used to Repair U.S. Capitol

Sometimes that pile of wood in the basement actually does come in handy. A stash of priceless mahogany that sat for decades in a Madison laboratory will play a key role in restoring damage caused when a mob stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6. The wood was brought to the Forest Products Laboratory during World War I for research into aircraft propellers. When the project ended, the leftovers — 78 clear mahogany boards about 12 feet long — were put into storage. [Read More](#)

New Populations of Rare Plants Discovered During DNR Survey

Volunteers working with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have discovered new populations of some of the Badger State's rarest plants, including orchids and milkweeds, through the department's Rare Plant Monitoring Program. [Read More](#)

The Secret Mission To Unearth Part Of A 142-Year-Old Experiment

It was 4 o'clock in the morning, well before sunrise, and cold. A light wintry mix of rain and snow was falling. The lousy weather was a relief, as it meant even less of a chance that someone might randomly pass by. The small group of scientists didn't want anyone to see what they were about to do. [Read More](#)

Wisconsin Offers Seedlings to its Landowners to Aid Reforestation

As the Midwest welcomes the beginning of a new spring season, Wisconsin landowners can purchase seedlings from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to aid in reforestation. Available seedlings include various conifers, hardwoods and shrubs.

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One Senator's Idea to Save Forests and Help the Climate — and Create Jobs

More than 10.2 million acres of the United States burned last year from wildfires, killing 46 people and causing \$16.6 billion in damages. Senator Michael Bennet said the country needs to be more proactive with fire prevention by putting people to work maintaining forests. [Read More](#)

What Is Forest Bathing? Benefits and How to Practice Shinrin-Yoku

Have you ever taken a walk through nature without any distractions? Possibly without knowing it, you participated in the popular Japanese wellness activity of forest bathing, or shinrin-yoku, as it is traditionally known. Forest bathing is a sensory practice where you "bathe" your senses with natural stimulation from the forest or other nature setting. [Read More](#)

Wisconsin Division of Forestry: Managing More than the Trees! (Upcoming Event — Science on Tap Minocqua)

Heather Berklund was announced the new chief state forester in Oct. 2020, where she has worked since 2000. Heather's early career was spent in Iron and Ashland Counties, managing the diverse public lands, tax law program, fire suppression, education and outreach, and private landowner programs. Heather hopes this session will offer a better understanding of what the Division of Forestry does, why trees are so important for a long-term healthy environment, and how you can do your part for future generations. [Read More](#)



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Visiting Woodchips Embedded Links to Webpages

Hyperlinks embedded into Woodchips allow readers to enjoy featured video or audio presentations as well full news articles or papers of interest with just a simple click of their mouse. The links appear at the end of an article (a news headline with one or two introductory sentences) typically as **Watch Video**, **Read More**, or **For More Information**.

To open the link, place your cursor over **Watch Video** or **Read More** and so on, and then left click on your mouse. That should open the link in a new window providing access to the specifically linked webpage.

With this issue of Woodchips, we will start listing the full URL to each hyperlink on a second page. If needed, the URL can be copied and pasted into your web browser address bar (also known as location bar or URL bar).

Past issues of Woodchips are found on the Forest History Association of Wisconsin webpage at <https://www.foresthistoryassociationwi.com/woodchips/>

To keep issues of Woodchips arriving in your e-mail's inbox, keep your e-mail address up-to-date in FHAW membership records by contacting our membership chairman, Robert Walkner at anvils@charter.net or the editor, Don Schnitzler, at thefhaw@gmail.com.

Links shared in this issue of Woodchips

Jumping Worms Are Eating — And Altering — Wisconsin's Forest and Garden Soils

(article) <https://pbswisconsin.org/news-item/jumping-worms-are-eating-and-altering-wisconsins-forest-and-garden-soils/?fbclid=IwAR0JGiR2G79WRgsTK9eIHmNoONH2CVMtZxLU1shsvBKOTVlvKwPxVizsY8I>

(video) <https://pbswisconsin.org/watch/university-place/invasive-jumping-worms-mj8j7h/>

After a Century in Storage, Wood from Madison Lab Being Used to Repair U.S. Capitol

https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/govt-and-politics/watch-now-after-a-century-in-storage-wood-from-madison-lab-being-used-to-repair/article_cf6f9f16-e81a-5a28-9468-baf52230cb75.html

New Populations of Rare Plants Discovered During DNR Survey

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/new-populations-of-rare-plants-discovered-during-dnr-survey/?fbclid=IwAR2LBsHZNxUjleUakyXORL02BhNs7NIBnDOcuHYPaVBIWvWJB473Ad7Ehc>

The Secret Mission To Unearth Part Of A 142-Year-Old Experiment

https://www.npr.org/2021/04/21/989333092/the-secret-mission-to-unearth-part-of-a-142-year-old-experiment?utm_campaign=npr&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=social&utm_term=nprnews&fbclid=IwAR0Ory_40eUu7jBf62bvlNvYcksUqrXRpQfHyUG3est2lmd96LIVkdp5apU

One Senator's Idea to Save Forests and Help the Climate — and Create Jobs

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/michael-bennet-climate-change-forest-management-wildfire-prevention-create-jobs/>

Wisconsin Offers Seedlings to its Landowners to Aid Reforestation

<https://badgerherald.com/news/2021/03/30/wisconsin-offers-seedlings-to-its-landowners-to-aid-reforestation/>

What Is Forest Bathing? Benefits and How to Practice Shinrin-Yoku

https://www.treehugger.com/forest-bathing-5180323?utm_campaign=treehugger&utm_medium=email&utm_source=cn_nl&utm_content=23643045&utm_term=

Wisconsin Division of Forestry: Managing more than the trees!

<http://www.scienceontapminocqua.org/upcoming-events.html>