

## SLELO PRISM Partners Share These Goals:

### PREVENTION

Prevent the introduction of invasive species into the SLELO PRISM region.

### EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE

Detect new and recent invaders and rapidly respond to eliminate all individuals within a specific area.

### COOPERATION

Share resources, expertise, personnel, equipment, and information.

### INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Collect, utilize, and share information regarding surveys, infestations, control methods, monitoring, and research.

### CONTROL

Control invasive species infestations by using best management practices, methods and techniques to include:

**ERADICATION** - Eliminate all individuals and the seed bank from an area.

**CONTAINMENT** - Reduce the spread of established infestations.

**SUPPRESSION** - Reduce the density but not necessarily the total infested area.

### RESTORATION

Develop and implement effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where suppression or control has taken place.

### EDUCATION / OUTREACH

Increase public awareness and understanding of invasive species issues through volunteer monitoring, citizen science and community outreach.

**SLELO PRISM**  
*This QR code will link  
to more resources.*



## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario  
Partnership for Regional Invasive  
Species Management

### SLELO PRISM

*C/O The Nature Conservancy*

**(315) 387-3600 x 7725**

[www.imapinvasives.org](http://www.imapinvasives.org)

## Get Involved

Help find invasive species  
of interest in your region.

For details, contact

[megan.pistolese@tnc.org](mailto:megan.pistolese@tnc.org)

**Stay informed, join our listserv**

**Follow these steps to join:**

1. Email [cce-slelo-1-request@cornell.edu](mailto:cce-slelo-1-request@cornell.edu)
2. Type "join" in subject space
3. Leave email body blank and send

Photo Credits: University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum, <https://arboretum.wisc.edu/news/arboretum-news/research-update-jumping-worms-and-sleeping-cocoons>. Mustard pour & ID traits Karen Ceballos, NY Master Naturalist Program Cornell Cooperative Extension Department of Natural Resources, <https://twitter.com/hashtag/jumpingworms?src=hash>. Granular soil photo: [https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/a/4227/files/2017/11/JumpingWoms\\_FactSheet-11\\_15\\_17-2026fwt.pdf](https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/a/4227/files/2017/11/JumpingWoms_FactSheet-11_15_17-2026fwt.pdf). Work cited:  
(1) <https://extension.unh.edu/blog/invasive-spotlight-jumping-worms>  
(2) [https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/a/4227/files/2017/11/JumpingWoms\\_FactSheet-11\\_15\\_17-2026fwt.pdf](https://cpb-us-e1.wpmucdn.com/blogs.cornell.edu/dist/a/4227/files/2017/11/JumpingWoms_FactSheet-11_15_17-2026fwt.pdf)

SLELO PRISM

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management



## What you Should Know About Asian Jumping Worms

**SLELO PRISM**

*"Teaming up to stop  
the spread of  
invasive species"*

## What are Jumping Worms?

Asian jumping worms is a term given to at least 5 species, mostly in the genus *Amyntas*, of invasive worms native to East Asia. Like all earthworms, jumping worms were unintentionally introduced to North America, likely through infested nursery stock. While they are now widespread throughout much of the US, they have only recently been documented in northern hardwood in NY State.

Often, earthworms are considered beneficial to soil health. This is true to a small extent for European earthworms, but is **definitely not the case for invasive Asian jumping worms**. Asian jumping worms reproduce twice as fast as European earthworms, and consume soil organic matter so effectively and fast that soils are degraded tremendously. Plus, jumping worms are toxic to birds, amphibians, and to other worm species. The loss of leaf litter, and erosion and subsiding of soils which result from a jumping worm infestation leads to greatly reduced forest regeneration, and a loss of biodiversity across trophic levels including amphibians, birds, beneficial fungi, and understory plants. Jumping worms create bare soil in the forest, which paves the way for unwanted invasive plants, such as garlic mustard and buckthorn.

**Asian jumping worms do not need to mate, and a single one can start a whole new population.** They are easily spread through the movement of nursery stock, compost, topsoil, well as gardening and landscaping equipment and shoe treads.

**Look for Asian jumping worms on the soil surface just beneath the leaf litter of forest areas or urban backyards and parks.**

## You Can Stop The Spread:

Currently, there are no methods known to control earthworms. Therefore, preventing their spread is most important. Below are some precautionary steps that can help slow their spread.

- Buy bare root stock when possible and be wary of sharing /moving plants.
- Do Not** buy/use jumping worms for bait, vermicomposting or gardening.
- Only buy compost that is heat treated.
- Thoroughly clean garden tools, shoes and vehicles.

### If You Find Asian Jumping Worm:

- Note the location in which the worm was found.
- Take close up photos of the specimen, be sure to include a close up of the band around the body of the worm (clitellum).
- Report sighting to [iMapinvasives.org](http://iMapinvasives.org) or your local Cornell Cooperative Extension.

## How to Check Your Property For

### INVASIVE JUMPING WORMS

Using a mustard pour.

1) Mix 1 gallon of water with 1/3 cup of ground yellow mustard seed



2) Clear a bare patch of soil and pour solution slowly over soil. This will drive any worms to the surface

3) If you have jumping worms, report it to [www.nyimainvasives.org](http://www.nyimainvasives.org)



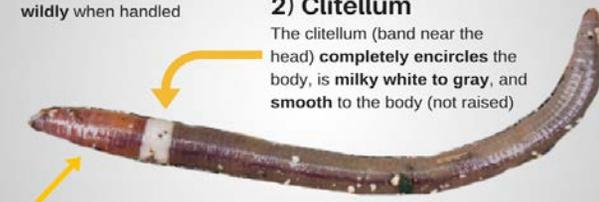
## Identifying Asian Jumping Worms:

### 1) Snake-like behavior

Jumping worms will thrash wildly when handled

### 2) Clitellum

The clitellum (band near the head) completely encircles the body, is milky white to gray, and smooth to the body (not raised)



Clitellum located closer to the head than European worm species.

### Not to be confused with:

Common non-native European species which have a raised, reddish clitellum



Granular soil that resembles coffee grounds is a sign of an Asian jumping worm infestation. Pictured below is an example.

