



New York Forest Owners Association

Central New York Chapter

COVERING CAYUGA, HERKIMER, MADISON, ONEIDA,
ONONDAGA & OSWEGO COUNTIES

AUGUST 2018

UPCOMING events of interest

September 9 - Dave Marzolf has offered to let us have our annual picnic and woods walk on his large property in Williamstown on Sunday, Sept 9 from 11 AM - 3 or 4 pm.

The Marzolf's property sounds very interesting . You can view photos at www.pondviewlodge.com where you will see that the Marzolfs have a lodge on the property that they rent out. For the woods walk, good hiking shoes or sneakers are recommended as trails are stony with tree roots in some areas, but usually don't get too muddy, even when wet. The property has a couple of canopies as well as a barn for shelter in the event of rain. If the weather is nice, there is a shaded area in the yard for people to hang out. A bathroom is available There is a pond with a dam and a foundation from an 1850's sawmill. The trees in some areas have been marked for a softwood harvest for this winter. Another area just received an aspen clear cut this past winter for habitat regeneration. Please bring a dish to pass! Grilled hamburgers, sausage and rolls will be provided.

Feel free to call Dave at 315-532-4851 for more information .
ALSO - if you have item(s) that might be suitable for donating for a raffle at the picnic, please let Dan know.

Directions

From the south

Take 81N to exit 33(Parish)

Take a left off the exit onto County Rt.26

Follow Rt. 26 for about 7 miles

Turn left onto Stone Hill Rd.

In about a mile and a half, look for 3 red barns and a PONDVIEW LODGE sign

From the north:

Take 81S to exit 33(Parish) Turn left onto State Rt. 69

In 1/4 mile turn left onto Rt. 26 and follow above directions to 319 Stone Hill Rd

Williamstown, N.Y 13493

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December 7 - Christmas Party at the Babcocks in Cazenovia!

Our CNY-NYFOA chapter is mostly located in the Southeastern Lake Ontario watershed. In addition to our interest in trees and woodlands, most NYFOA members are interested in the Wildlife of our region. There are many online resources about them including the following:



<https://www.nyfoa.org/resources/state-wildlife-grants-swg/wildlife-species-different-watersheds>



NY DEC has a rather comprehensive description of the Southeast Lake Ontario Basin itself
www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/ontariosetxt.pdf

"Over 45% of the Southeastern Lake Ontario (SLO) watershed region is covered in forest of which at least 80% is privately owned. Consequently, the health and prosperity of the watershed's wildlife populations depend on how well these owners protect and enhance the habitat on which the hundreds of species of insects, amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds and mammals depend. The good news is that most forest wildlife species are thriving, but unfortunately many are not. These species of greatest conservation need (SGCN) have been identified in the NY Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS). 129 of these species call this watershed region their home.

A major goal of the CWCS is to inform forest owners of the need for management practices that will enhance forest biodiversity and thereby keep these SGCN from becoming rare or endangered. So much of the critical habitats for these species exists on private lands that landowner cooperation will be the ultimate deciding factor on whether species declines can be halted. The plan further lists the threats to these species and management strategies that will improve their habitats. Fortunately, for forest owners and wildlife alike, many species will benefit from sustainable forest practices, including sawtimber production, when implemented in accordance with NYS best management practices (BMPs)."



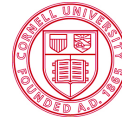
***Some SCARY reading on the next two pages that came from Cornell Cooperative Extension.
"Jumping Worms" have been found in the Northeast and have recently been found in the Syracuse area. This is the time of year when you may find them...Note the way of checking whether they are in your soil is to dust an area where you might suspect them with ground mustard seed in water. They will squirm to the surface...NOTE all the NY DEC advice and prohibitions .***

INVASIVE SPECIES

Jumping Worms

Amyntas spp. and *Metaphire* spp.

Also known as crazy snake worm, Alabama jumper, Asian worm



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension



This mature jumping worm can be identified by its characteristic smooth, often milky white clitellum (band near the head of the worm). PC Susan Day/ UW- Madison Arboretum

Not to be confused with:



Common invasive European species have a raised or saddle-shaped, segmented clitellum.

PC Holger Casselmann

What to look for:

Worms are smooth, glossy gray or brown;
1.5 to 8 inches long

- **Crazy behavior!** They jump and thrash wildly when handled, moving more like a threatened snake. They can also shed their tails in defense.
- **Clitellum** (the narrow band around their body) is smooth to the body, unlike most other species which have a raised and pink colored clitellum. Their clitellum completely encircles the body and is often cloudy white to gray colored. Body looks metallic.
- **Soil signature** Jumping worms leave distinctive grainy soil full of worm castings. The soil becomes granular and looks like dried coffee grounds.
- **Timing** Best time to find them is late August or September when they are largest.

Jumping worms threaten forest health

Nearly all earthworms in the Northeast today are non-native, and these European and Asian invasives are altering the soil structure and chemistry of our forests. They consume the critical layer of organic matter that supplies vital nutrients for plants and provides food, protection and habitat for wildlife. However, jumping worms are especially concerning. These Asian exotics devour organic matter more rapidly than their European counterparts, stripping the forest of the layer critical for seedlings and wildflowers. Jumping worms grow twice as fast, reproduce more quickly and can infest soils at high densities. In areas of heavy infestation, native plants, soil invertebrates, salamanders, birds and other animals may decline. Jumping worms can severely damage roots of plants in nurseries, gardens, forests and turf. They, along with other invasive worms, can also help spread invasive plant species by disturbing the soil. Jumping worms are widespread across much of the Northeast, Southeast and Midwestern US, and the first records date to the late 19th century. Unfortunately, relatively little is known about them compared to European earthworms.

Jumping worms are PROHIBITED by the New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation. Prohibited invasive species cannot be knowingly possessed with the intent to sell, import, purchase, transport or introduce.

INVASIVE SPECIES: Jumping Worms

Where to find them?

They can be found on the soil surface and in the leaf litter, making them easy to find. They can live anywhere from urban parks and suburban backyards, to rural forests. You are very likely to find them in compost piles and along roads.

Not one problem, but THREE!

Jumping worms all look very similar, but there are actually at least three species: *Amyntas agrestis* (which is most often cited as the culprit), *Amyntas tokioensis*, and *Metaphire hilgendorfi*. We know that species co-occur, but we need more information on the distribution of each species and their respective impacts.

A highly invasive species

Many worm species can reproduce without mating, which means a single worm can start a whole population. Because jumping worms are more aggressive and their populations can grow faster than the common European species, they may outcompete existing worm populations.

Adults die prior to winter, but their young survive harsh New York winters in tiny, resilient cocoons. Cocoons are very small and dirt colored, so they are nearly impossible to spot with your own eyes. Cocoons can be spread easily in potted plants, and on landscaping equipment, mulch, tire treads and even hiking boots.



Worms quickly convert good soil into grainy dry castings that look like dry coffee grounds and cannot support many native plants.

PC Bernadette Williams/ Wisconsin DNR

Stop the SPREAD!



We currently have no viable earthworm control methods, but we CAN prevent their spread!

- Do NOT buy or use jumping worms for bait, vermicomposting or gardening.
- Only sell, purchase or trade compost that was heated to appropriate temperatures and duration following protocols for reducing pathogens.
- Clean compost, soil and debris from vehicles, personal gear, equipment, and gardening tools before moving to and from sites.
- Check your property for earthworms using a mustard pour (it won't harm your plants!) Mix a gallon of water with 1/3 cup of ground yellow mustard seed and pour slowly into the soil. This will drive any worms to the surface. If you have jumping worms, report it and avoid moving plants or soil from your yard.
- Be careful when sharing and moving plants. Always check for worms and know where your plantings come from. Buy bare root stock when possible.
- Dispose of all live worms in the trash or place them in a bag and leave out in the sun for at least 10 minutes. Then throw bag away.

Report Your Sightings

If you see jumping worms, please report your sightings to

www.nyimainvasives.org



If you have any questions, please contact:

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>>>> READING CORNER <<<<<

2018 Spring/Winter New York DEC Stumpage report can be found at
https://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/sprwinter18.pdf

NYFOA Director of Organizational Development, Dr. Michael Zagata, wrote about
Placing Wildlife at Risk for the Ruffed Grouse Society

You can find his article at:

https://www.nyfoa.org/application/files/9615/1835/7142/Ecological_Principles.pdf

Abstracts of some forestry/tree research from Science Daily Top Environment News

Forest ecology shapes Lyme disease risk in the eastern US Predators, acorns, & fragmentation regulate numbers of infected ticks <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/07/180709132727.htm>

First multiplex test for tick-borne diseases
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/02/180216110532.htm>

Scientists warn that proposed US-Mexico border wall threatens biodiversity, conservation
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/07/180724120901.htm>

Material formed from crab shells and trees could replace flexible plastic packaging
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/07/180723082134.htm>

Animals and fungi enhance the performance of forests: Study based on ten years of research in subtropical forests -- ScienceDaily
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/08/180801102600.htm>

Other news about Forests and Forestry, including commentary and archival articles published in *The New York Times* can be found at
<http://www.nytimes.com/topic/subject/forests-and-forestry>

If you do not subscribe to the NYT, you can still see a limited number of stories per month

NYFOA is always looking for NYFOA members who would be willing to have an article written about them and their land be in an New York Forest Owner Profile section of the NYFOA magazine...To volunteer go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OwnerProfile>

c/o Randi Starmer
7022 Bush Road
Jamesville, NY 13078



CNY-NYFOA

We are still looking for a volunteer for the Vice Chairman position.
Also, if you have announcements, photos, articles, suggestions etc. of general interest to share, please send them to danielzimmerman57@yahoo.com
OR randi.starmer@gmail.com OR any of the Officers listed on the first page
OR other Steering Committee members Ralph Meyer and Carl Stearns