

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS



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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