

Hello! To all of you worm lovers, we at REAPS hope you're having a great April! We are rolling right along into spring, with it's rain showers and maybe even some flowers. With spring we begin moving towards the end of the school year, and worm harvests! In the near future it will be time for your worms to be harvested and returned to the REAPS garden for their summer vacation. For more information on worm harvests or to set up an appointment, you can contact the Worm Lady at 250-561-7327 or thewormlady@reaps.org.



Good Bugs and Bad Bugs

Have you noticed any interesting bugs hanging out with your worm friends? It's important to keep an eye on who your worms are spending time with, as some bugs may not be very friendly towards them! Refer to this guide to keep your worms safe and happy!

GOOD BUGS: Keep these!

SOW BUGS: are a type of crustacean, as they have a shell-like exoskeleton that is rigid and segmented. When disturbed, they can roll up into a tight ball. They help to aerate the soil by feeding on dead and decaying plants, and are able to get through some tough material such as plant lignin.



SPRINGTAILS: are usually white, with a tail-like feature that allows them to jump when they feel threatened. This is necessary as they are small and don't have wings. Springtails help your worms by eating fungi, bacteria, and decomposing plants.



MILLIPEDES: are a long, worm-like insect with a segmented body. Each segment has two sets of legs. They are rounder and slower than centipedes, with dark brown-black colouring. They help worms by breaking down decaying vegetation.



BAD BUGS: Get rid of these!

FRUIT FLIES: are very small flying bugs, who commonly hang around decomposing fruit. Though they are not harmful to your worms, they are a nuisance. Make sure any exposed food is covered by bedding, or freeze food before putting it in.



MITES: are small, reddish-brown insects who are attracted to moist bins with many vegetables. Having some of these is expected in any worm bin, but too many can stress out your worms. To remove them, place a slice of bread or melon in the bin, and remove the next day when covered in mites. Repeat as necessary.



CENTIPEDES: are long, flat insects with one set of legs per segment. Unlike millipedes, centipedes are predators, and will use their venomous claws to kill or paralyze your worms and other insects! The only way to remove them is by hand, so watch out for their bite!



Send any questions, art or inquiries to:
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