

A Bug's Life Japanese beetle grub

Popillia japonica

Fun facts

- Larvae called white grubs
- Cause damage to lawns, sports fields, golf courses
- Active feeders through summer
- Overwinter deeper in soil
- Skunks and raccoons tear up yard digging for grubs

Identification

Damage: Patches of dead grass, root damage, sod easily rolls back, usually not a problem if less than 10 grubs in a square foot area

Larva: Cream-colored, C-shaped grub, identify JB grub by hairs on abdomen form "V" (use hand lens)

Management

- Hand remove from garden bed
- Preventative treatment June and July: Chlorantraniliprole or neonicotinoids
- Curative treatment in August: Clothianidin, triclofon
- Biological: Nematodes, *Btg*, milky spore
- Professional companies use foliar sprays, soil drench or tree injections



Photos: J. Green