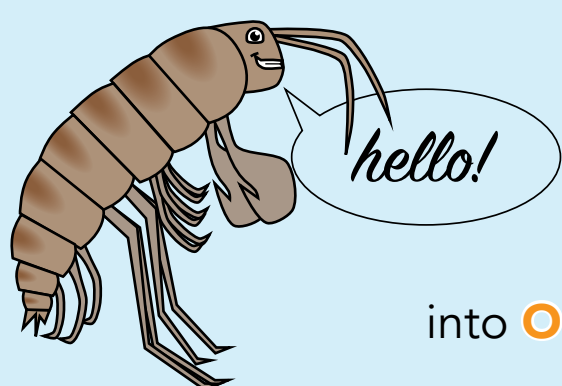


Parasites are a fact of life.

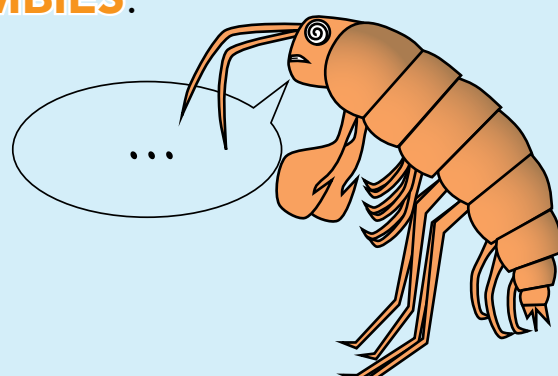
You interact with them every day. They live in or on a host and disrupt that host's life in some way. You've heard of fleas, ticks, and lice...

But have you heard of the parasitic worm *Levinseniella byrdi*?

It turns small, shrimp-like creatures called amphipods

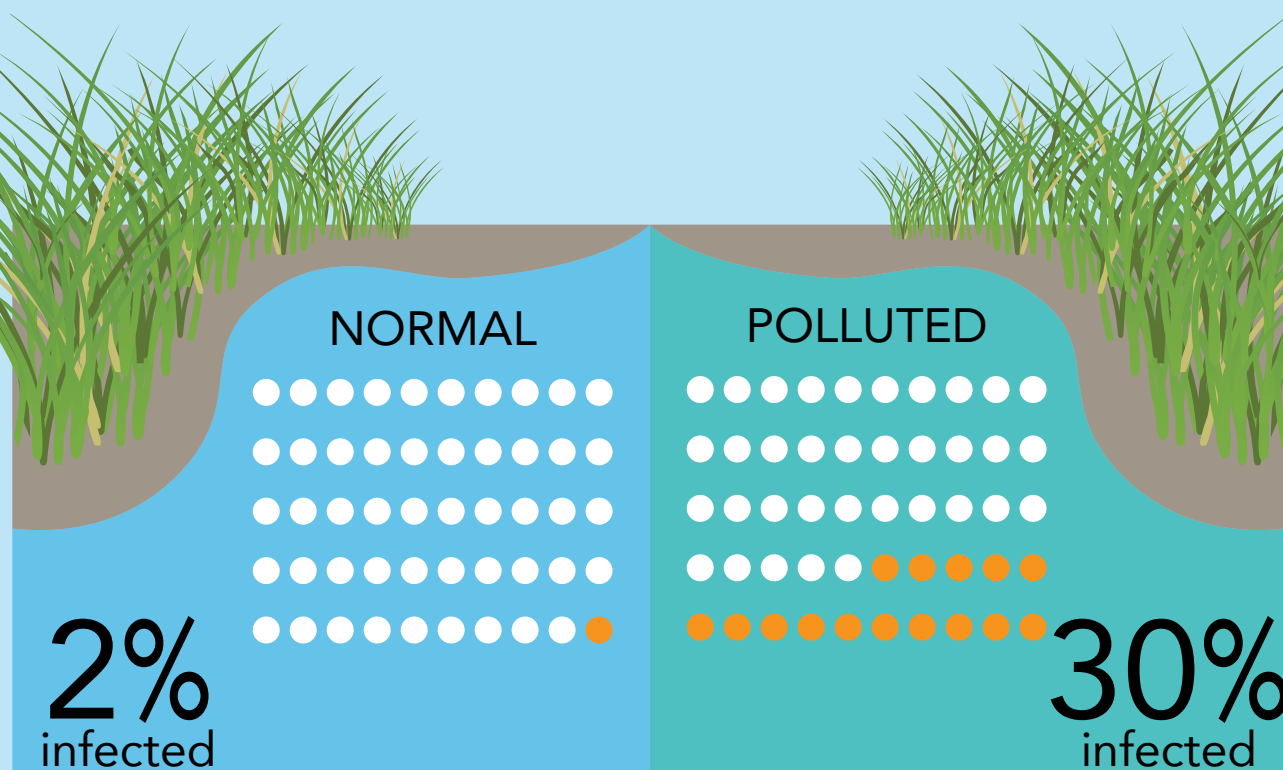


into **ORANGE ZOMBIES**.

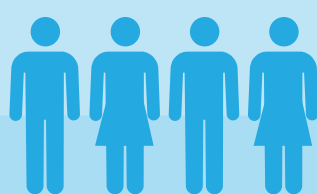


These orange zombies wander carelessly out into the open where they are picked off by birds, the final host of the parasite.

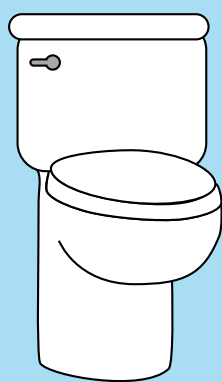
Scientists have found that nutrient pollution - such as fertilizer runoff - leads to more zombie amphipods in a salt marsh.



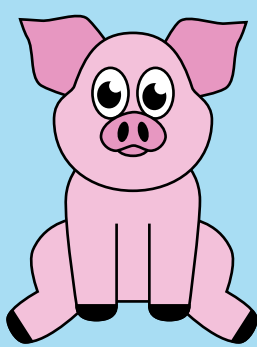
This is troubling because nutrient pollution is common and could affect human health. While orange amphipods are harmless to humans, other parasite-carrying animals, like mosquitoes, are not.



Nutrient pollution comes from many sources, including:



sewage treatment

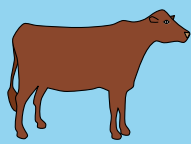


animal waste runoff

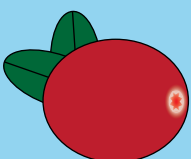


fertilizer runoff

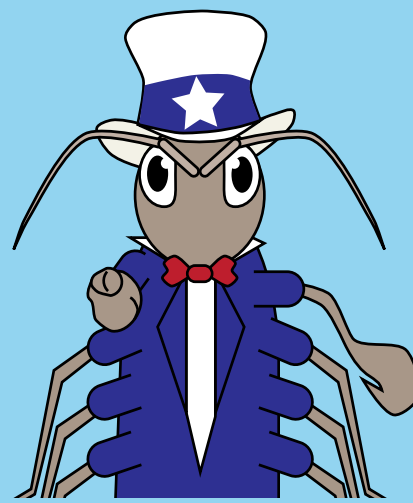
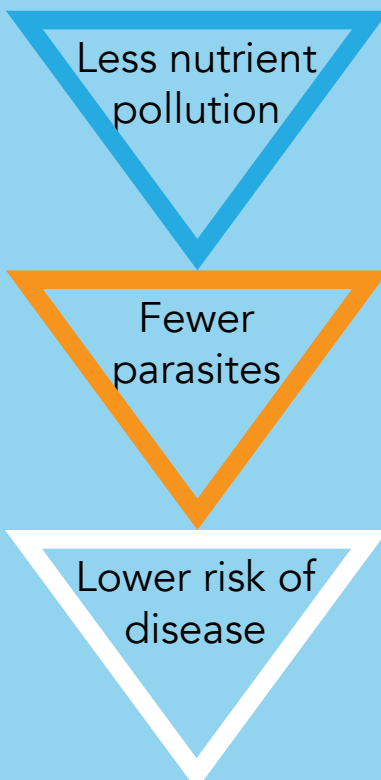
But don't panic! We can prevent **ZOMBIE APOCALYPSES**.



In Alabama's Dry Creek, the EPA helped install fences and new water sources to keep livestock away from the creek



In White Island Pond, Massachusetts, the EPA partnered with cranberry growers to limit fertilizers without lowering yield



Uncle Sam-hipod wants YOU to:

- Reduce lawn fertilizer
- Maintain septic tanks
- Scoop the poop (pets)