

# The Appleseeder



For most of his life, Johnny Appleseed roamed the northern United States sowing apple seeds in whatever soil he trod on. His peregrinations took him from Pennsylvania through Ohio and on into Montana, and everywhere he went, he left behind thousands, even millions of apple seeds, many of which eventually grew into trees. (Some, certainly, turned into protactinium, but that's another story.) But in 1840, his one and only distributor quit the business and, soon thereafter, Johnny ran out of seeds. Undaunted, he loaded his pockets with saplings and continued his wanderings while planting *them*. Because Johnny's pockets also contained traces of fertilizer, however, the saplings often began to grow prematurely. Thus, it was not uncommon for Johnny to have to wrestle a fully grown tree into the ground. This practice played havoc with his lower back, and he spent his later years alternating between outdoor sowing and a chiropractor's table.