

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

SERIES 1
#10
NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

SERIES 1
#9
NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

NATIVE PESTS

SERIES 1
#5

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

4-400 mm

NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

1-30mm

NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

Up to 40 mm

NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

2-20mm

can be red, green, or whitish

NATIVE SPECIES

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

NATIVE SPECIES

larva 3-15 mm

adult up to 30 mm

FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR

Malacosoma disstria

BASIC ID These 1 1/2"-2" blue caterpillars have a black stripe with white keyhole-shaped dots down their backs.

HABITS There is only one generation per year, and they are found in large groups, but do not make "tents." Caterpillars feed in May and June on aspen and other deciduous trees and can cause widespread defoliation.

MANAGEMENT

- Apply Bt (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) in May
- Remove and destroy black-gray egg masses on tips of branches in fall and winter

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Rhineland 715-365-8934
Green Bay 920-492-5872
Spoonerville 715-635-4156
Eau Claire 715-839-1632

Photo: Linda Williams, WI DNR
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PUB-FR-218e 2002



GIANT SILKMOTH CATERPILLAR

Hyalopora cecropia

BASIC ID

All giant silk moth caterpillars are huge, up to 4" long, and bright green. Different species are distinguished by their colorful knobs or stripes.

HABITS

Caterpillars eat a variety of trees and shrubs, including sugar maple, birch and apple. They are completely harmless. Young larvae feed in groups while older ones are solitary. Their brown, papery cocoons are attached to twigs in dark protected areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your local DNR Service Center or State Park Naturalist.

Photo: © Caroline Beckett, Flying Fish Graphics
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KARNER BLUE BUTTERFLY

Lycaeides melissa samuelis

BASIC ID Karner blues are distinguished by orange spots on the edge of the underwing. The male is on the left, the female is on the right.

HABITS KBBs feed only on wild lupine growing in prairies and early successional jack pine forests. There are two generations per year. Habitat loss, due to development and farming, caused the Karner blue population to decrease.

MANAGEMENT Karner blues are a federally endangered species. The DNR works with private landowners and supports prairie restoration and forestry practices that benefit the butterflies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your local DNR Service Center.

Photos: Thomas A. Meyer, WI DNR
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CRANE FLY LARVA

Order Diptera (meaning "two wings")
Family Tipulidae

Most species of this family are terrestrial, but larvae of some genera are aquatic. They live on stream bottoms in muck, rotting wood, algae or other soft substrate. There are 52 species in Wisconsin. Crane fly larva eat primarily dead material or leaves by shredding them as they enter the stream.

Check for these characteristics:

- Cylindrical body
- Head often not visible because retracted into body
- No legs present
- Many have a round disc of fleshy lobes at end of body



WILD! The crane flies are the largest family of the Diptera order, with more than 15,000 species of crane flies in existence.

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Photo: Dr. Stanley Szczytko, Professor of Limnology, UWSP
Art: UWEX
Partial funding provided by US EPA S. 319
Water Quality Act

WT-793 2004



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TUBIFEX WORM

Phylum Annelida
Class Oligochaeta (meaning "long hair,"
referring to hairs on the body)

Tubifex worms are both male and female at the same time. These aquatic worms can survive with little oxygen. Large populations are sometimes found in bottom materials of slow-moving, nutrient-rich streams. They build tubes, bury their heads inside, and wave their tails in the current. There are about 200 species in North America. Avoid confusing them with midge larvae.

Check for these characteristics:

- S-shaped
- Worm-like
- 7 to 500 segments
- No suckers



WILD! Tubifex worms can reproduce by splitting in two after growing a second worm on their own body.

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Photo: Jason Neuswanger, troutnut.com
Art: UWEX
Partial funding provided by
US EPA S. 319 Water Quality Act

WT-820 2005



Recycled paper

LEECH

Phylum Annelida (from *annellus*, meaning
"little ring," referring to their many body segments)
Class Hirudinea

Some leeches are scavengers, feeding on dead plants and animals. Others are parasites that release an anticoagulant to prevent the blood of their prey from clotting as they feed. They obtain oxygen through their skin. There are 69 species in North America. Avoid confusing them with planarians/flatworms.

Check for these characteristics:

- Body flattened
- Muscular-looking
- Body segmented
- No hairs on body
- Two suckers on body (one on each end)



WILD! Some leeches do not eat for two years after filling up on blood!

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Photo: William Moser, National Museum of Natural History
Art: UWEX
Partial funding provided by
US EPA S. 319 Water Quality Act

WT-819 2005



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WHIRLIGIG BEETLE

Order Coleoptera (meaning "sheathed wings")
Family Gyrinidae

The predatory larvae are rarely seen, while scavenging adults are usually seen swimming in circles on the water's surface. There are 25 species in Wisconsin. Avoid confusing larvae with caddisfly, dobsonfly, or alderfly larvae.



Check for these characteristics:

- Long, slender, pale-colored
- 10 pairs of unsegmented projections on their sides
- Two pairs of sickle-shaped hooks on end of abdomen
- Stream-lined body
- Club-shaped antennae
- Back legs flattened for swimming

WILD! To see above and below the water at the same time, adult whirligig beetles have two pairs of eyes.

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Photo: (adult) Dr. Bert M. Dones, TX A&M University; (larva) John Hawking, Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology; Art: (larva) Curt Nixon, Illinois Natural History Survey; (adult) UWEX.
Partial funding provided by
US EPA S. 319 Water Quality Act

WT-814 2005



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MIDGE LARVA (NON-BITING)

Order Diptera (meaning "two wings," most other insect adults have four) Family Chironomidae

Midge larvae live in many aquatic habitats. These short, thin, worm-like insects wiggle intensely as they swim. They are an important food for insects, birds and fish. There are 103 aquatic genera in Wisconsin. Avoid confusing midge larvae with tubifex worms and caddisfly larvae.



Check for these characteristics:

- Often C-shaped
- Red, green, or whitish
- Head is round
- Pair of prolegs at each end of body
- Prolegs end with a series of hooks

WILD! Red midge larvae, known as bloodworms, contain oxygen-carrying hemoglobin, which allows them to survive longer in water with low oxygen levels.

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Photo: Jason Neuswanger, troutnut.com
Art: UWEX
Partial funding provided by
US EPA S. 319 Water Quality Act

WT-818 2005



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