

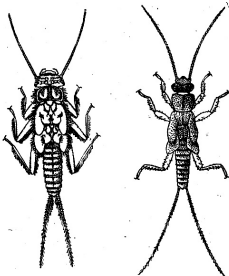

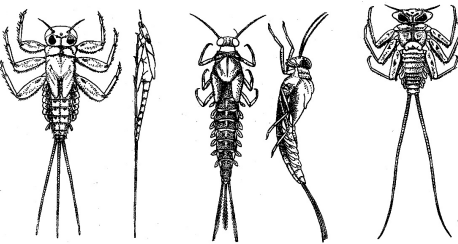

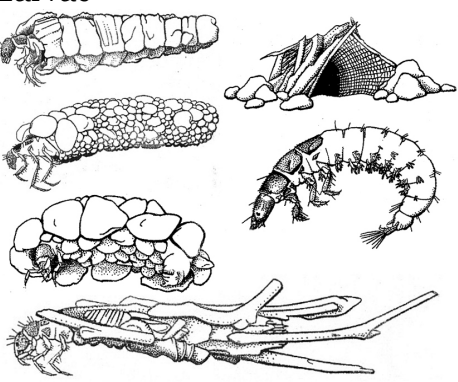




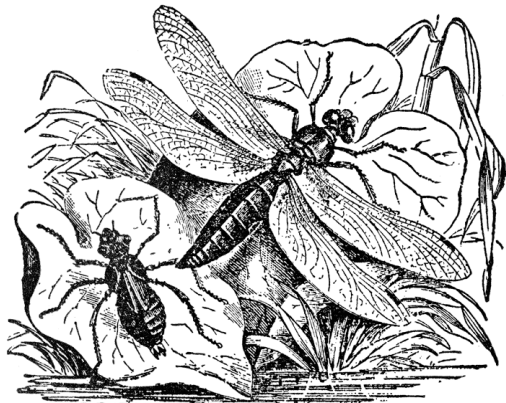
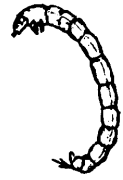
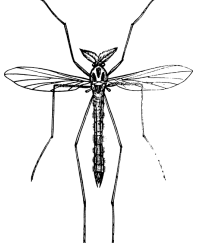


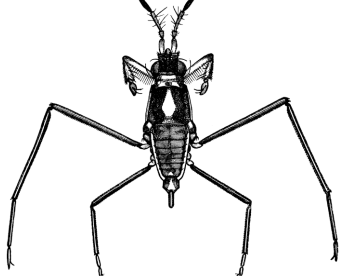
Amazing Aquatic Arthropods Of Jacoby Creek: An Insect ID Guide



Arthropods are animals that are a part of the Phylum *Arthropoda*, which literally means “jointed feet.” Arthropods are invertebrates that have exoskeletons and jointed appendages. The Jacoby Creek watershed houses both terrestrial and aquatic arthropods, all of which can be observed. Aquatic insects are indicators of good water quality, especially dissolved oxygen. Aquatic arthropods depend on the riparian for food, not the creek. They eat plant material, such as algae, alder leaves and woody debris, as well as detritus and other arthropods. Some flies spend their premature life as an aquatic insect before sprinting for the sky. Then, as adult flies, most species don’t eat at all. They make up a crucial part of the food web as they support lots of creek life, including salmon and trout. Try to find and identify the following aquatic arthropods in the Jacoby Creek:

If you want to temporarily capture any arthropods, please remember that they need oxygen from water to breathe and respectfully return them to the creek before they show signs of distress.

Stoneflies	Larvae 	Adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At 3-4 inches long, JC stoneflies are the biggest in North America • 2-3 year life cycle, but only spend weeks as a fly • Live on stones in fast moving water • Gills are on legs, so when oxygen deprived, they do “push-ups” to breathe
Mayflies	Larvae 	Adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larvae eat 150% of body weight everyday & are eaten by salmon • Larvae eat algae & detritus in water, including the feces of other insects • Live on flat rocks in fast water (including ceramic tiles) • When mature, pupae float to the surface, which strips off their skin revealing wings that have to dry before they can fly away & spend 1 day as an adult fly
Caddisflies	Larvae 	Adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic larvae make protective, portable cases out of vegetable matter, tiny pebbles, & s& particles (or gold & gems when used to make jewelry). • Making their case is their most important task. They won’t eat until their case is built &, in hard times, they’ll eat someone else’s case. • Have gills on their sides & move water through cases to breathe • In Fall & Winter, they eat alder leaves from in their cases • In Spring & Summer, they hibernate in their cases, but still work to move & maintain their cases • Eat algae & are eaten by fish, birds, & mammals

Crayfish			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Also called crawfish & crawdads • Eat detritus & alder leaves • Small brownish species lives here
Dragonflies	<p>Larva & adult</p> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic larvae eat caddisflies, mayflies, & stoneflies • Territorial – here their territory is 1½ miles long • Females repeatedly return to same spot to lay eggs • Spend 1 or 2 months as a fly
Midges	<p>Larva</p> 	<p>Adult</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midges are small flying insects that closely resemble mosquitoes. • Larvae are very small, pollution-tolerant, spastic squirmy swimmers.
Riffle Beetles	<p>Larva</p> 	<p>Adult</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small, black, fast-swimming aquatic insects that • Eat plant material, algae, and wood debris
Water Striders			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water striders (not spiders) are common flying insects on ponds and creeks. • Tiny hairs on legs enable them to walk on water • Eat other insects in water • Their young live on, not in, the water and look just like tiny adult striders.



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