

Spring is in the Air!

What's...Buuuuzzing...Around...Your...Head?

MAYFLY - adult

- Emerges in May
- Lives for 1 - 3 days and does not feed
- Food source for trout
- Can swarm

DRAGONFLY - adult

- Excellent flyer
- Forms a basket with their legs and scoops prey out of the air
- Some feed on mosquitoes and biting insects

CRANEFLY - adult

- Over 3500 species in North America
- Feeds on tree leaves
- Looks like a giant mosquito but does not bite

BLACK FLY - adult

- Lives three weeks or less
- aggressive biter that requires blood to reproduce
- Not all are attracted to humans

MAYFLY - nymph

- Looks like a small minnow
- Excellent swimmer
- Crawls out on a rock when ready to emerge

DRAGONFLY - nymph

- Lives in still or slow moving water
- Moves by a jet propulsion system
- Lower lip can extend $\frac{1}{4}$ of body length to capture prey

CRANEFLY - larva

- Aquatic, semiaquatic or terrestrial
- Burrows in leaves, woody debris, or gravel on the stream bottom
- Most have a one year-life cycle

BLACK FLY - larva

- Clings to rocks in swift streams
- Produces a silken thread from their mouth that they use to attach themselves to rocks
- Brush-like mouth parts collect food

Aquatic Macroinvertebrates

undergo complete metamorphosis or incomplete metamorphosis. They begin life underwater as nymphs or larva and emerge as adults. Aquatic macroinvertebrates are sensitive to their surrounding and are indicators of water quality.

 LaMotte

© 2022 LaMotte Company

Related Links: [Aquatic Macroinvertebrate Life Cycle and Habitat Flash Cards](#), [Macro Mania](#), [Leaf Pack Stream Ecology Kit](#)