

Key to the Common Macroscopic Arthropods of Local Lakes

1	With legs	2
1	Without legs	22
2	With hard smooth wing covers – (beetles, - Order Coleoptera)	27
2	Without elytra	3
3	With one pair oar like legs, longer than others used for swimming	4
3	Without 1 pr. oar like legs	7
4	Wings white or partly white, sucking beak present	5
4	Wings not white	6
5	Small (5 mm or less) with arched back	(Hemiptera Pleidae)
5	Larger (8 mm or more) – back flat	(Hemiptera, Notonectidae)
6	Body broad and very flat, beak present	WATER BUGS (Hemiptera, Belostomatidae)
6	Body not flat, beak absent	WATER BOATMEN (Hemiptera, Corixidae)
7	With 3 prs. legs	8
7	More than 3 prs. legs	17
8	With extensible lower lip or labium (Order Odonata)	9
8	Without extensible ladium	10
9	With 3 blade-like abdominal appendages, small and slender	DAMSELFLY NYMPHS (Suborder Zygoptera)
9	Without blade-like external appendages, usually short and stout	DRAGONFLY NYMPHS (Suborder Anisoptera)
10	Body enclosed in a case	CADDISFLY LARVAE (Order Trichoptera)
10	Body not encased	11
11	End of abdomen with three filamentous projections	MAYFLY LARVAE (Order Ephemeroptera)
11	Fewer than three projections at end of abdomen	12
12	Jaws huge, sickle-shaped and pointed	16
12	Jaws otherwise	13
13	No posterior abdominal projections	GYRINID LARVAE (Coleoptera, Gyrinidae)
13	One or two posterior abdominal projections	14
14	One tube-like abdominal projection	15
14	Two abdominal filaments at end of abdomen	STONEFLY LARVAE (Plecoptera)
15	Animal stiff, long and slender; front legs reflexed; short beak present	WATER SCORPION (Hemiptera, Nepidae)
15	Animal worm-like and flexible	AQUATIC BEETLE LARVAE
16	One posterior projection	WATER TIGER LARVAE (Coleoptera, Dytiscidae)
16	Two posterior projections at end of abdomen	HYDROPHILIDAE LARVAE (Coleoptera, Hydrophilidae)
17	With three pairs of thoracic legs and numerous abdominal false legs; all similar	18
17	Legs various, never as above	19
18	False legs unjointed	WHIRLIGIG BEETLE LARVAE (Coleoptera, Gyrinidae)
18	False legs jointed	HELGRAMITE (Neuroptera, Corydalidae)

19	Four pairs of legs	WATER MITES (Acarina, Hygrobatidae)
19	More than four pairs of legs (Crustacea)	20
20	Large animals, first pair legs are large pincers	CRAYFISH (Decapoda, Cambaridae)
20	Smaller animals, first pair legs are not large pincers	21
21	Bilaterally flattened	SAND FLEAS (Isopidae, Gammaridae)
21	Dorso-ventrally flattened	(Amphipods, Asellidae)
22	Clear head capsule visible	23
22	No clear head capsule visible	26
23	With knob (proleg) just in back of head capsule	MIDGE LARVAE (Diptera-Chironomidae)
23	Without such	24
24	Head and body similar elongate thread-like No-See-Ums	(Diptera Ceratopogonidae)
24	Body thicker-worm like, head capsule often differentiated	25
25	With clear posterior breathing tube	MOSQUITO LARVAE (Diptera-Culcidae)
25	Without clear breathing tubes	GHOST MOSQUITO LARVAE (Diptera-Chaoboridae)
26	No long tube at one end	HORSEFLY LARVAE (Diptera – Tabanidae)
26	With long tube at one end	MUCK FLY LARVAE (Diptera – Stratomyidae)
27	Eye divided into two parts (Top & Bottom)	WHIRLIGIG BEETLE (Coleoptera – Dytisidae)
27	Eye not divided into two parts	28
28	Posterior legs flattened and oar-like	DIVING BEETLE (Coleoptera – Dytisidae)
28	Posterior legs not flattened and oar-like	29
29	Large black beetles	SCAVENGER BEETLE (Coleoptera – Hygrophilidae)
29	Small colored beetles	(Coleoptera – Haliplidae)