

Maine Stream Explorers

Basic Field Data Sheet



A treasure hunt for healthy streams in Maine. Your objective is to find aquatic insects and other macroinvertebrates. The "Sensitive" macroinvertebrates prefer streams with good habitat and cold, clean water. The "Moderately Sensitive" bugs are a little more tolerant of pollution and habitat alteration. The "Tolerant" ones are least sensitive to pollution but they are not bad; they are just tough. Thank you and have fun!

Stream Name:		Town:		Collection Date:	
Latitude:		Longitude:		Photos: upstream downstream	
Description of Sample Location:					
Names of Collectors:					
Total time at the stream:			Time spent sorting and identifying macroinvertebrates:		
Number of samples collected: Rocks		Tree roots and undercut banks		Logs and branches Plants	

Abundance Categories: 1-5 = Few (F), 6-25 = Common (C), more than 25 = Abundant (A) **PICTURES ARE NOT TO SCALE**

Sensitive to pollution	<p>Mayflies Look for 6 legs, 3 thin tails (sometimes 2), and gills on the abdomen. Some have protective plates over gills.</p>
	Abundance:

Sensitive to pollution	<p>Stoneflies Look for 6 legs, 2 thin tails, and no gills on the abdomen. Some may have fuzzy gills in their "arm pits."</p>
	Abundance:

Sensitive to pollution	<p>Casemaking Caddisflies They have a grub-like body with 6 legs. Usually a creamy color.</p>	<p>Freeliving Caddisfly</p> <p>sometimes green</p>	<p>Water Snipe Fly</p>
	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:

Moderately Sensitive to pollution	Netmaking Caddisflies Soft body with 6 legs. White, yellow, or green  sometimes green			Dragonflies 6 legs and no visible gills 		
	Abundance:			Abundance:		
Moderately Sensitive to pollution	Damselflies 6 legs and 3 paddle-shaped gills 		Dobsonfly & Alderfly 		Beetles 	Crayfish 
	Abundance:		Abundance:		Abundance:	Abundance:
Moderately Sensitive to pollution	Water Penny 	Limpet 	Cranefly 	Blackfly 	Midge (white, grey) 	Aquatic Dance Fly 
	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:
Tolerant of pollution	Amphipod 	Isopod 	Leech 	Aquatic Worm 	Midge (red, orange) 	Snails 
	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:	Abundance:

Sensitive (# of kinds)	Moderately Sensitive (# of kinds)	Tolerant (# of kinds)

Please visit (<https://maineaudubon.org/projects/stream-explorers/>) to enter your data

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Please e-mail pictures of sites and macroinvertebrates to Mady Eori at conserve@maineaudubon.org

If you questions about the macroinvertebrate keys, contact Tom Danielson at thomas.j.danielson@maine.gov

Comments: