



# BUGS BELOW ZERO

Bugs are everywhere in the summer, but have you ever thought about what happens to them in the winter? Learn more, view educational information on winter aquatic insects and their purpose in our ecosystem, and join our community science program at [bugsbelowzero.com](http://bugsbelowzero.com).

## ABOUT THE RESEARCH PROJECT

Bugs Below Zero is a research project conducted at the University of Minnesota with some funding provided by the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

## MEET THE SPECIES

Learn about Midges, Stoneflies, Mayflies, and Caddisflies and their importance to Minnesota outdoor recreation, our community, and the local economy.

## EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

View educational videos, digital tools, upcoming events, data collection opportunities, and classroom activities created by the Bugs Below Zero team.

## JOIN THE COMMUNITY SCIENCE PROJECT

Get involved in the research! Participants simply identify insects, make observations, and submit photographs of insects on the snow, often near stream banks.

Please visit our **Bugs Below Zero** website to view details about how you can get involved in our participatory science program! Insects active in the winter months impact the food web in lakes, streams, and rivers of Minnesota. They are able to survive freezing temperatures, serve as an important food source for trout, and often can be found on snowbanks. With your help, we can learn more about life under the snow and see how the unique Midwest climate can reveal valuable insights about interactions between weather, water, insects, and food webs for researchers across the globe.

At **bugsbelowzero.com**, you can learn more about getting involved in the research project and view educational resources, videos, presentations, tools, and classroom resources on winter active insects like midges, caddisflies, mayflies, and stoneflies. The materials and community science project are perfect for outdoor recreation enthusiasts, conservationists, families, classrooms, nature centers, and trout anglers.

**Bugs Below Zero** is supported by an interdisciplinary team of experts in the agricultural and environmental sciences, science communication, entomology, fisheries, wildlife, and conservation biology disciplines. It is housed at the University of Minnesota and supported by funding from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund.

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