Dive into the underwater world of waterbugs in Melbourne's waterways

Waterbugs are a diverse group of insects, molluscs, crustaceans and other invertebrates that live in different habitats in our waterways.

You can help look after all our aquatic animals by keeping your streets and waterways free from litter and pollution.

SIGNAL 2 score sensitivity to pollution

8-10 Very sensitive
5-7 Sensitive
3-4 Tolerant
1-2 Very tolerant
v Varies

Waterbugs can indicate the health of a waterway by their Stream Invertebrate Grade Number – Average Level (SIGNAL) 2 score. These scores provide a measure of how tolerant or sensitive different waterbugs are to pollution.



For more information visit https://www.melbournewater.com.au/waterbugcensus

Waterbugs

Size of waterbugs not to scale



Waterbug species that can be found in Melbourne's creeks, rivers and wetlands

> Diving beetle larvae

2



Fly larvae

Stick caddis larvae



Leptofleb mayfly

nymphs

Riffle beetles



Freshwater shrimps



Baetid mayfly nymphs