Argiope

Order Araneae
(arachnid - not an insect)

Orb Weaver Spider
Found near gardens, shrubs, flowers
Size - 1/4 inch to 1 1/8 inches
Food - small insects

Beneficial
Bumblebee

Order - Hymenoptera
Found in flowers rich areas; nests underground
Size - 3/8 inch to 7/8 inch
Important pollinator

Beneficial
Corn Earworm Larva

Order - Lepidoptera
Found on a variety of crops
Size - 1 inch to 1 1/2 inches
Food - corn kernels, tomatoes, peppers
Cicada

Order - Hemiptera
Found on shrubs, trees
Size - 1 inch to 2 1/4 inches
Food - juices from roots
Carpenter Ant

Order - Hymenoptera

Found near dead wood, fence posts, houses.

Size - 1/4 inch to 1/2 inch

Food - other insects, sugars, honeydew.

They nest in wood, but do not eat it.
Deer Tick

Class - Arachnida
not an insect

Found in leaf litter, brush, tall grass, woods
Size - pinhead size to 1/16 inch
Food - human and animal blood
Can cause Lyme disease and other infections in humans and animals.
Insect Identification

Dragonfly
Order - Odonata
Found near streams, ponds
Size - 1/78 inches to 3 inches
Food - small insects, worms
Beneficial

Image: Marilyn S. Chase, University of Connecticut IPM. Used with permission
German Cockroach

Order - Blattodea
Found mostly in buildings; especially in humid areas;
Usually active at night
Size 5/8 inch
Food - decaying matter or fermented food

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Grasshopper

Order - Orthoptera
Found in tall grass, open woods
Size - 3/8 inch to 3 inches depending on species
Food - grasses, crops, plants and other vegetation
House Fly

Order - Diptera
Found near garbage, animal manure, exposed food.
Size 1/8 inch to 1/4 inch
Food -
Adults - sweet liquids or decaying matter
Larvae - moist foods rich in organic matter

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Lady Beetle

Order - Coleoptera
Found on foliage in gardens, meadows and woods
Size 1/32 inch to 5/8 inch
Food - aphids and small insects

Beneficial
Leafhopper

Order - Homoptera
Found in gardens, meadows, open woods
Size 1/16 inch to 5/8 inch
Food - juices of plants

Monarch Butterfly

Order - Lepidoptera
Found in meadows, roadsides around milkweed plants; important pollinator
Size - Wingspan 3 1/2 inches to 4 inches
Food -
Caterpillar - Foliage, flower buds and juice of milkweeds;
Butterflies - Flowers, nectar

Beneficial
Mosquito

Order - Diptera
Found near water and swamps
Size - 1/8 to 1/4 inch
Food -
Females - Blood
Males - Nectar
Parasitic Wasp

Order - Hymenoptera
Found near host insects
Size - 1/32 inch to 1 1/8 inch
Food -
    Adults - Nectar
    Larvae - Host insects

Beneficial
Praying Mantis

Order - Mantodea
Found on foliage, flowers in meadows and fields
Size - 2 inches to 2 1/2 inches
Food - Aphids, caterpillars, flies, butterflies, bees and moths

Beneficial
Green Stink Bug

Order - Hemiptera
Found on vegetation, shrubs, trees;
Secrete a foul-odored fluid for defense
Size - 3/16 inch to 1 inch
Food - plant juices, some eat caterpillars and beetle larvae

Beneficial
Swallowtail Butterfly

Order - Lepidoptera
Found in areas with flowers
Size - Wingspan 4 to 5 7/8 inches
Food -
  Butterfly - Nectar
  Caterpillar - Foliage
Beneficial
Walkingstick

Order - Orthoptera
Found on trees and plants;
Can regenerate lost legs
Size - 5 7/8 inches
Food - Foliage of grasses, trees
Waterstrider

Order - Hemiptera
Found - on plants or water surfaces of rivers, ponds, streams, lakes, oceans
Size - 1/16 inch to 1 1/4 inches
Food - other insects

Beneficial
White Grub

Order - Coleoptera
Found in soil
Size - 1/3 inch to 1 3/4 inches depending on species
Food - plant roots
Indian Meal Moth

Order - Coleoptera
Found as larva in food pantries, cabinets, stored grain products
Size - 1/32 inch to 3/4 inch
Food - Grain products, fruits, nuts, candy, chocolate, dog food, bird seed.
Honeybee

Order - Hymenoptera
Found - In well-vegetated areas, near flowers; produce honey and beeswax
Size - 1/8 inch to 1 1/4 inches
Food - Nectar, sugar, pollen

Beneficial
Firefly

Order - Coleoptera
Found in meadows and open woods.
Size - 1/4 inch to 3/4 inch
Food - insect larvae, slugs, snails, mites

Beneficial