Insects found in Maricopa County, AZ

Maricopa County is located within the Sonoran Desert, an arid region covering 120,000 square miles in southwestern Arizona, southeastern and most of Baja California, as well as the western half of the state of Sonora, Mexico.

Anthropod

Giant Desert Centipede Giant Desert Millipede

Arachnida

Bark Scorpion
Giant Desert Hair

Giant Desert Hairy Scorpion

Solpugid Tarantula

Blattaria (Cockroach)

American Desert Turkestan

Coleoptera (Beetle)

Arizona Blister
Darkling
Ground

Palo Verde Longhorn

Pinacate

Diptera (Fly)

Blow Flesh Flower Fungus Gnat House Mosquito

Hemiptera (Heteroptera)

Leaf-footed Bug False Chinch Bug

Homoptera (Heteroptera)

Aphid Cicada Whitefly

Hymenoptera (Ant, Bee, Wasp)

Big Headed Ant
Forelius Ant
Harvester Ant
Southern Fire Ant
Carpenter Bee
Honey Bee
Paper Wasp
Tarantula Hawk Wasp
Umbrella Wasp
Velvet Ant (Wasp)

Isoptera

Desert Termite

Lepidoptera

Gulf Fritillary

Hornworm and Hawkmoth Swallowtail Butterfly

Orthoptera

Banded-wing Grasshopper Indian House Cricket

Insects

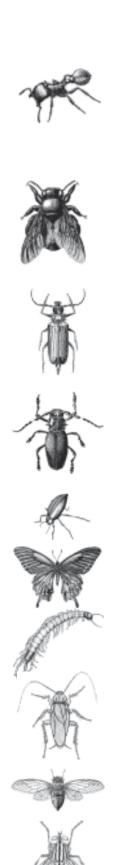


Wildlife of Maricopa County Parks

Notes:

National Poison Control Hotline 800,222,1222





Ant, Harvester Pogonomyrmex spp ¹/₁₆- 1" mostly black, brown, or reddish. Non-poisonous.

Warning These ants are capable of delivering a sting, which does not hurt at first, but can result in intense pain and swollen lymph nodes, particularly if the victim is attacked by numerous workers.

Bee, Carpenter *Xylocopa spp* ³/₄". Dark colored bodies resemble bumblebees. Strong mandibles for boring into wood. Live in wood cavities.

Beetle, Arizona Blister Lytta magister
This plant-eating beetle variety is ⁵/₈"1 ¹/₈" in length, is blue-black with dull
orange head and legs that are brownish
red. Poisonous.

Warning: Insect can squeeze a fluid called cantharidin from their joints. This fluid can raise blisters on humans skin.

Beetle, Palo Verde Longhorn Derobrachus geminatus The adult beetle grows to more than 3" long and may be encountered in early evening of summer.

Beetle, Pinacate Eleodes spp 1" beetle, raises rear-end to excrete a foul-smelling substance. Non-poisonous.

Butterfly, Swallowtail *Papilio multicaudata* State butterfly; yellow wings, black marks. Spike-like on hind wings. Large.

Centipede, Giant Desert Scolopendra heros May be 8" long, has 42 legs and is found under rocks and dead vegetation. Bite is painful with swelling. Poisonous.

Cockroach, American Periplaneta americana Dark colored, body oval and flat. Eats decaying vegetation, and bugs. 2-31/4". Non-poisonous.

<u>Cicada, Desert</u> Diceroprocta apache Adults emerge in June, feed on plant sap, mate, and insert their eggs just under the surface of plant stems. Non-poisonous.

Fly, Flesh Sarcophaga spp ²/₅". Dark bodies with grayish hairs on thorax, have sucking and piercing mouthparts.

Grasshopper, Banded-Wing Trimerotropis pallidipennis Adults are ³/₄"- 1 ¹/₁₀" long. Grasshoppers usually feed on forbs and grasses, and are a serious pest especially for farmers. Non-poisonous.

Millipede, Giant Desert Orthoporus ornatus Cylindrical form, two pairs of legs per body segment and the habit of coiling when alarmed. If handled, strong odor emitted and a substance secreted which can irritate skin. 5". Non-poisonous.

Mosquito Culex tarsalis

Wings long and narrow, fringed with scales. Proboscis in females long and piercing. Males do not bite. $^2/_5$ ". Non-poisonous.

Scorpion, Bark Centruroides exilicanda Throughout Arizona, parts of New Mexico, and Mexico; almost always associated with trees. Adult 1³/₄ - 2³/₄."

Warning The most dangerous scorpion of the Southwest. Its sting may be life-threatening to children/elderly.

Scorpion, Giant Desert Hairy Hadrurus arizonensis 5½" thorax black, each leg pale yellow. Nocturnal and preyed upon by owls and bats. Erect hairs on entire body. Poisonous venom in stinger, used to subdue prey and for self-defense.

Solpugid Eremobates spp
Yellowish-brown, large jaws and a rapid

runner. Can bite if handled, but no venom glands. Also called sun spiders. 3½"- 4". Non-Poisonous.

<u>Tarantula</u> Aphonopelma This 3"- 4" large hairy-bodied, burrowing spider. Seen during summer rainy season in southwestern deserts. Non-poisonous.

Termite, Desert Gnathamitermes perplexus Small soft bodies, live in colonies and have chewing mouthparts. Found in the ground or wood. ½".

Wasp, Tarantula Hawk Pepsis spp 1/2"- 3/4" large wasp; black-blue with reddish-orange wings. Sting and paralyze tarantulas; lay eggs on spider; when eggs hatch, they eat the still-living spider.

<u>Velvet Ant</u> Dasymutilla spp

Actually, a wasp, not an ant. Long-haired ground wasps, with yellow, orange, or red patterns, ranging in size from 1/4"- 8/10". Painful sting. Non-poisonous.















