**HOUSE FLY**

**IDENTIFICATION CLUES**

- 1/8 - 1/4 inch long
- Gray and brown body covered with bristles
- Large head with large compound eyes
- Mouth is modified to work like a vacuum for sucking
- Feet are clawed and have sticky pads making them excellent at climbing and walking upside down

**Where to Look**

House flies can be found wherever there is food or garbage, in your house or at a summer picnic. They are also found around barns where they feed on manure. Compost piles are another good place to look for houseflies.

**What It Eats**

House flies eat human food, garbage, dead animals, rotting plant material, feces, just about anything. They use their saliva to liquify their food before sucking it up.

**Who Eats It?**

Birds are important predators of adult flies and larvae. The main enemy of the young are parasitoid wasps.

**Role in the Ecosystem**

Houseflies play an important role in the food chain and also are contributors to the recycling department.

**Did You Know**

Flies are suspected to be carriers of diseases like typhoid and cholera but it has not been absolutely proven because they do not bite.