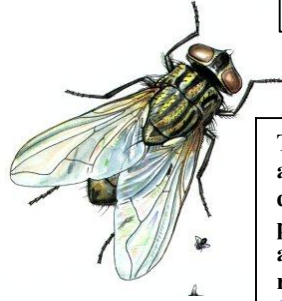


Common Flying Insects

of the Pacific Northwest

BIG FLIES



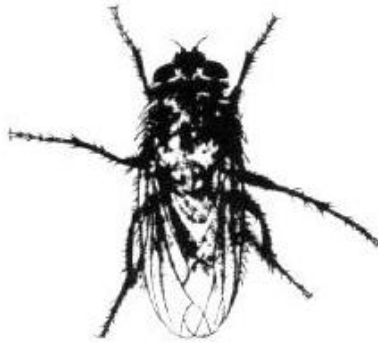
Housefly, *musca domestica*

The **Housefly** is the most common of all flies found around homes and business. They are considered a pest that can carry serious diseases. They are generally associated closely with humans, particularly in colder climates. They live 15-25 days. They are active only in the daytime and rest at night. Sanitation and the removal of breeding sites is crucial to their control. (See [34abHouseFly](#) for more detailed information)



Lesser Housefly, *fannia canicularis*

The **Lesser Housefly** is substantially smaller than the housefly and the adults fly slowly and tend to hover. It can also withstand cooler temperatures than the housefly. It is the small fly often found in doorways never landing and flying in circles. (See [34acLesserHousefly](#) for more detailed information)



The **Clusterfly and the Facefly** are similar in their habits. The large sluggish flies appear on warm sunny days during late autumn, winter and early spring. They occur in large numbers, especially at windows and in room not frequently used. They make irritating buzzing noises, spin around and move sluggishly. They are larger than a housefly and they seek protected places (such as within walls) to spend the winter. (See [34adClusterFlies](#) for more detailed information)

Clusterfly/Facefly, *pollenia rudis/musca autumnalis*

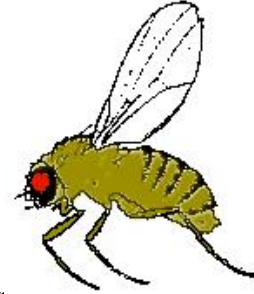
Blow Flies are common flies associated with dead animals. The larva (maggots) feed on decomposing carcasses. This is often an indication of a dead rodent or bird within the walls of a building.



Blowfly (Bluebottle fly)
calliphora

Small Flies and Mosquitoes

Fruit Flies are valuable in science (particularly genetics) for a number of reasons (including their red eyes). In your kitchen their associated with ripening fruit, juices, wine, and vinegar. (see [34aeFruitFlies](#) for further information)



Fruitfly, *drosophila melanogaster*
(Sometimes called vinegar fly)



Phorid Flies are often mistaken for fruit flies. They have more of a humped back and lack the red eyes. They also run across a surface rather than immediately fly. They breed in rotting fruit and vegetables, drains, garbage and sewer saturated soil. (see [34afPhoridFly](#)) for further information.)

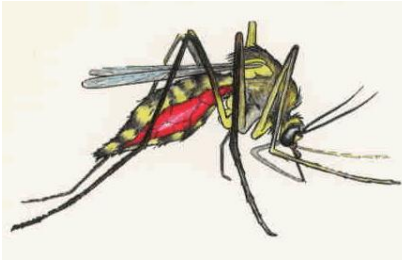
Phorid Fly (humpback, drain), *phoridae*

Fungus Gnats occasionally become a nuisance when adults emerge in large numbers from potted plants. They are attracted to lights and usually first noticed by the windows. Avoid overwatering.

Fungus Gnat, *sciarid*



Mosquitoes



Mosquitoes Mosquitoes carry disease-causing viruses and parasites from person to person without catching the disease themselves. They are estimated to transmit disease to more than 700 million people annually (mostly in Africa, South and Central America, Mexico and Asia). In the US they are mainly an irritating nuisance, but they still cause a few deaths each year. Females are the only ones that drink blood and they hunt their host by detecting carbon dioxide. (See [34baMosquitoes](#) for further information).