Name:

WATERBUGS data sheet

City of Newcastle

Record the following information about your waterbug sampling site.

Location

Date and time

Waterway name

Weather condition (circle)

SUNNY   CLOUDY   RAINING   WINDY

Waterway depth (mm/cm – approximate)

Waterway width (cm/m – approximate)

Rainfall estimate (past 24 hrs)

Which type of habitat makes up your waterway?
Tick the box if you can see these habitats.

Leaf Packs

Rocks

Aquatic Plants

Gravel

Wood

Sand/Silt

Edge Plants

Open Water

Record the different waterbugs you find.

COMMON NAME	SIGNAL RATING	TICK IF PRESENT
Very Sensitive Waterbugs		
Stonefly Nymphs	10	
Mayfly nymphs	9	
Sensitive Waterbugs		
Alderfly larvae	8	
Caddisfly larvae	8	
Riffle beetle and larvae	7	
Water mites	6	
Tolerant Waterbugs		
Beetle larvae	5	
Dragonfly nymph	4	
Whirligig beetle and larvae	4	
Yabby / Freshwater crayfish	4	
Water strider	4	
Damselfly nymph	3	
Fly larvae and pupa	3	
Midge larvae and pupa	3	
Freshwater mussel	3	

COMMON NAME	SIGNAL RATING	TICK IF PRESENT
Nematode	3	
Freshwater sandhopper	3	
Freshwater shrimp	3	
Water scorpion / Needle bug	3	
Very Tolerant Waterbugs		
Diving beetle	2	
Flatworm	2	
Hydra	2	
Water treader	2	
Freshwater worm	2	
Freshwater slater	2	
Waterboatman	2	
Backswimmer	2	
Bloodworm	1	
Leech	1	
Mosquito larvae and pupa	1	
Freshwater snail	1	
TOTALS	A	B

Calculate your waterway health

Add up the SIGNAL ratings of all the different waterbugs you found in TOTALS A

÷

Add up the number of different types of waterbugs present in TOTALS B

=

MY SCORE

> 6	clean water
5 to 6	mild pollution
4 to 5	moderate pollution
< 4	severe pollution