

FIREFLIES

COLEOPTERA: LAMPYRIDAE

Did you know? Around 80% of fireflies are bioluminescent, meaning they make their own light. You can tell if a firefly can glow by looking for the yellow patch on its underside!



Did you know? Firefly larvae glow too! They use this to ward off predators in the leaf litter where they live.

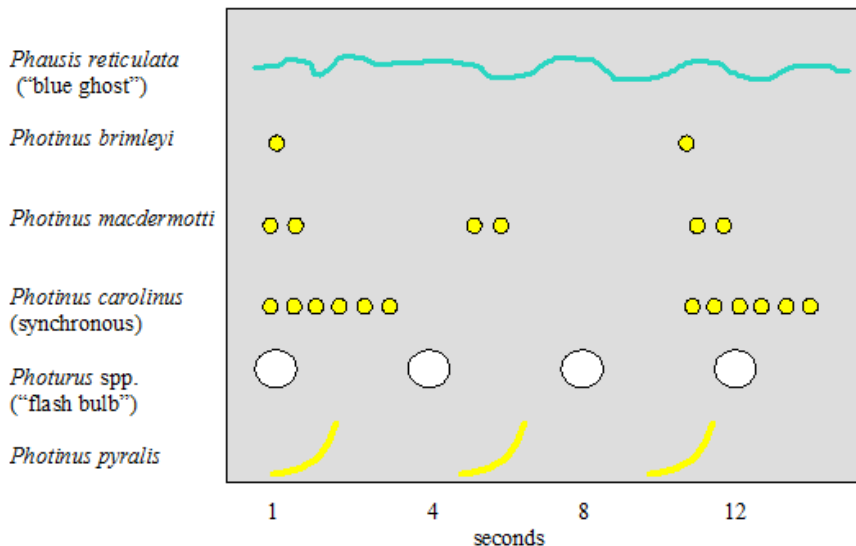
Did you know? You can help conserve firefly populations by leaving the leaves in fall instead of bagging them up. This allows fireflies and other critters to overwinter in the safety of the leaf litter

Look and see!

Fireflies aren't flies at all! They're beetles!

Flash patterns are species specific! Fireflies can find mates with their unique call and response patterns

A firefly larva shines its light



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Credits:

Photos: Terry Priest (<https://www.flickr.com/photos/artfarmer/13369846663/>) firefly in flight; National Park Service (<https://www.nps.gov/grsm/learn/nature/firefly-flash-patterns.htm>) flash patterns of Smoky Mountain Fireflies; Stan C. Smith (<https://www.stancsmith.com/blog/awesome-animal-firefly>) firefly larva

Facts: NPS (<https://www.nps.gov/grsm/learn/nature/firefly-flash-patterns.htm>); The Xerces Society

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