**Case Building Caddisfly**  
*Order: Hydropsychidae  Family: Limnephilidae*

Number of species in North America: more than 300

**Size:** body: 20-30 mm/ case 25-50 mm

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**Diet:** Shredder-detritivores, shredder-herbivores, collector-gatherers, scraper.

**Food for:** Game fish, predaceous water insects.

**Habitat:** Lentic and lotic habitats, streams, rivers, springs, marshes and ponds.

**Movement:** clinging, crawlers and climbers.

**Water Quality Indicator:** Groups I and II – can exist under a limited or wide range of water quality conditions; a large number indicates GOOD water quality.

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Eggs are deposited in gelatin masses in the stream. Masses vary from a few eggs each to several hundred eggs in each mass. Egg masses are sometimes green, yellow or orange.

The larval stage can last from 2-3 months to 2 years. Larvae shed their exoskeleton an average of 5 times.

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**Life Cycle Corner**

Complete metamorphosis

Adults emerge in late spring or early fall and live for approximately 30 days.

The pupa stage lasts 2-3 weeks. Pupae are aquatic and obtain oxygen in the same way as larvae.

Larvae create a cocoon in the water for the pupa.