



Earwig, Neil Fitzgerald

# EARWIGS

## (FORFICULA AURICULARIA)

Get out into your backyard and look for an earwig! Please don't touch or try to catch them, they have a job to do!

- Earwigs eat dead bugs and plant material. They will occasionally eat fruit, like strawberries.
- They are important for our backyards because they help process decomposing plants and bugs.

### **Tips on observing them:**

- You can find earwigs in almost any damp and dark area of your backyard.
- They are common under bark, in holes and crevices and under rocks. Earwigs are nocturnal, so they prefer darkness during the day and are active at night.
- Be careful, if you disturb earwigs they will scatter and run away to hide. Don't chase them – they just want some space.