



## American burying beetle (*Nicrophorus americanus*)

The American burying beetle is the only endangered insect in Arkansas. Adults can grow to 1 1/2 inches long. They are only active at night and work in pairs to raise their young. Carrion (dead animal flesh) is their favorite food. The pairs search for food together, then build an underground chamber to store it in. Once the food is buried, the female lays eggs on top of it. When the eggs hatch, the larvae eat the dead animal. These beetles often carry swarms of tiny, orange bugs on their body that help keep them clean.