Cabbageworm

Family: Pieridae
Pieris rapae

Fun facts
- Very common white butterfly known as cabbage white
- Overwinter as pupae in leaf litter
- Several generations per year

Host plants
- All crucifers, including cabbage, Brussel sprouts, broccoli, cauliflower and others

Identification
- **Damage:** Defoliation of leaves, damage to heads, distinct droppings
- **Caterpillar:** Up to 1-1/4" long, velvety green, soft hairs, thin yellow stripe down back, 3 thoracic legs, 4 prolegs
- **Pupa:** Greenish-brown chrysalis
- **Butterfly:** 1-3/4" long, white butterfly with black spots and markings, usually seen with wings held together

Management
- Scout early on underside of leaves
- Handpick mature caterpillars
- Install floating row covers
- Garden sanitation and fall clean up
- Organic options include neem oil, spinosad, pyrethrum (use spreader-sticker to coat plant) or *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Btk) when larvae are small

Photos: J. Green