

This checklist covers the dragonflies and damselflies of the C&O Canal National Historical Park and associated wetlands. The seasonal occurrence and relative likelihood of encountering the adults presented in this checklist are very general. Some dragonflies are present in good numbers but are not likely to be encountered by a general naturalist. Other species are very conspicuous and even though they are few in numbers stand out and are noticed. Seasonal occurrences presented are also generalized because it is often only when males mature and return to the breeding grounds that they are noticed.

LIKELIHOOD OF ENCOUNTERING ADULTS

(A) = Abundant and conspicuous in appropriate habitat

(C) = Certain to be seen in suitable habitat

(U) = Present, but could easily be missed in suitable habitat

(R) = Not likely to encounter

(H) = Historical records only

ADULT FLIGHT SEASON

(S) = usually noticed only in the spring or early summer

(F) = usually noticed only in the late summer or fall

(E) = most likely encountered in the eastern half of the Park

(W) = most likely encountered in the western half of the Park

If not marked can be found throughout the season and length of the Park

DRAGONFLIES

PETALTAILS

_____ Gray Petaltail (S)(R)(E)

DARNERS

- _____ Spatterdock Darner (S)(R)*
- _____ Shadow Darner (F)(U)
- _____ Green-striped Darner (F)(R)*
- _____ Common Green Darner (C)
- _____ Comet Darner (U)
- _____ Springtime Darner (S)(C)
- _____ Fawn Darner (F)(C)
- _____ Ocellated Darner (F)(U)(W)
- _____ Swamp Darner (C)
- _____ Harlequin Darner (S)(R)(E)
- _____ Cyrano Darner (U)(E)

CLUBTAILS

- _____ Unicorn Clubtail (U)
- _____ Black-shouldered Spinyleg (C)
- _____ Eastern Ringtail (F)(U)(E)
- _____ Spine-crowned Clubtail (U)(W)
- _____ Lancet Clubtail (S)(C)
- _____ Midland Clubtail (U)(E)
- _____ Splendid Clubtail (U)(W)
- _____ Ashy Clubtail (S)(C)
- _____ Rapids Clubtail (U)(S)
- _____ Cobra Clubtail (A)(S)
- _____ Skillet Clubtail (H)*
- _____ Green-faced Clubtail (S)(U)(W)
- _____ Dragonhunter (C)
- _____ Rusty Snaketail (A)(S)(W)

- _____ St. Croix Snaketail (R)(S)(E)*
- _____ Pygmy Snaketail (R)(W)*
- _____ Common Sanddragon (R)(E)*
- _____ Eastern Least Clubtail (U)
- _____ Riverine Clubtail (H)*
- _____ Laura's Clubtail (F)(R)
- _____ Russet-tipped Clubtail (F)(C)(E)
- _____ Arrow Clubtail (F)(C)

SPIKETAILS

- _____ Brown Spiketail (S)(R)
- _____ Tiger Spiketail (R)(E)
- _____ Arrowhead Spiketail (S)(R)
- _____ Twin-spotted Spiketail (S)(U)

CRUISERS

- _____ Stream Cruiser (S)(C)
- _____ Allegheny River Cruiser (R)*
- _____ Swift River Cruiser (C)
- _____ Royal River Cruiser (U)

EMERALDS

- _____ American Emerald (R)(W)
- _____ Common Baskettail (S)(A)
- _____ Prince Baskettail (A)
- _____ Robust Baskettail (S)(R)(E)*
- _____ Uhler's Sundragon (U)(W)
- _____ Umber Shadowdragon (U)
- _____ Stygian Shadowdragon (U)
- _____ Mocha Emerald (U)
- _____ Clamp-tipped Emerald (U)

SKIMMERS

- _____ Calico Pennant (C)
- _____ Halloween Pennant (C)
- _____ Banded Pennant (U)
- _____ Double-ringed Pennant (U)

- _____ Common Pondhawk (A)
- _____ Bar-winged Skimmer (U)
- _____ Spangled Skimmer (C)
- _____ Blue Corporal (S)(C)
- _____ Spot-tailed Whiteface (U)(W)
- _____ Slaty Skimmer (C)
- _____ Widow Skimmer (C)
- _____ Needham's Skimmer (U)(E)
- _____ Common Whitetail (A)
- _____ Twelve-spotted Skimmer (C)
- _____ Painted Skimmer (U)
- _____ Great Blue Skimmer (C)
- _____ Blue Dasher (A)
- _____ Wandering Glider (C)
- _____ Spot-winged Glider (C)
- _____ Eastern Amberwing (A)
- _____ Blue-faced Meadowhawk (F)(U)
- _____ Cherry-faced Meadowhawk (U)
- _____ Ruby Meadowhawk (U)
- _____ Autumn Meadowhawk (F)(C)
- _____ Carolina Saddlebags (C)
- _____ Black Saddlebags (C)

DAMSELFLIES

JEWELWINGS

- _____ Ebony Jewelwing (C)
- _____ Appalachian Jewelwing (C)(W)
- _____ American Rubyspot (A)
- _____ Smoky Rubyspot (H)*

SPREADWINGS

- _____ Great Spreadwing (F)(U)(E)
- _____ Southern Spreadwing (U)
- _____ Sweetflag Spreadwing (U)
- _____ Elegant Spreadwing (U)
- _____ Slender Spreadwing (U)
- _____ Swamp Spreadwing (U)

POND DAMSELS

- _____ Eastern Red Damsel (U)
- _____ Blue-fronted Dancer (A)
- _____ Violet Dancer (U)
- _____ Powdered Dancer (A)
- _____ Blue-ringed Dancer (F)(A)
- _____ Blue-tipped Dancer (U)
- _____ Dusky Dancer (C)
- _____ Aurora Damsel (S)(U)
- _____ Azure Bluet (U)
- _____ Double-striped Bluet (U)
- _____ Familiar Bluet (A)
- _____ Turquoise Bluet (U)
- _____ Big Bluet (C)(E)
- _____ Stream Bluet (A)
- _____ Skimming Bluet (C)
- _____ Orange Bluet (C)
- _____ Slender Bluet (U)
- _____ Citrine Forktail (U)
- _____ Lilypad Forktail (U)
- _____ Fragile Forktail (A)
- _____ Rambur's Forktail (U)(E)
- _____ Eastern Forktail (C)

Please report any sighting of dragonflies or damselflies marked with an asterisk (*), or any species not listed, to Richard Orr (odonata457@comcast.net).

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CHECKLIST OF THE DRAGONFLIES AND DAMSELFLIES OF THE C&O CANAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK AND ASSOCIATED WETLANDS

