

How To Use This Checklist

The information presented in this checklist reflects our current understanding of the status of dragonflies and damselflies within Cleveland Metroparks. You can add to our understanding by being a knowledgeable observer. Record your observations and contact a naturalist if you find something that may be of interest.

Species are listed taxonomically. Each species is listed with a common name, a scientific name and a note about its occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks. Check off species that you identify in Cleveland Metroparks.

Cleveland Metroparks Outdoor Experiences Division

Administration.....	(216)881-8141
Brecksville Nature Center.....	(440)526-1012
CanalWay Center.....	(216)206-1000
Garfield Park Center.....	(216)341-3152
North Chagrin Nature Center and Look About Lodge.....	(440)473-3370
Rocky River Nature Center.....	(440)734-6660
Watershed Stewardship Center.....	(440) 887-1968

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

C = Common. Widespread and often numerous in proper habitat and season.

O = Occasional. Found at scattered locations or widespread but in moderate numbers.

R = Rare. Represented by a few individuals or has a very restricted range within Cleveland Metroparks.

h = Hypothetical. Occurrence within Cleveland Metroparks possible but not confirmed.

X = Extirpated. Once occurred, but is no longer found in Cleveland Metroparks.

Months indicate the period when flying adults of a given species can be found (example: May - Jul)

NOTICE: Removing Odonata or any other animal from Cleveland Metroparks is prohibited, except with a special permit for educational or scientific purposes.

DRAGONFLIES: SUBORDER ANISOPTERA

Petalails: Family Petaluridae

___ Gray Petaltail *Tachopteryx thoreyi* **O**; late May - Sep; often perches on trees near streams; very "tame"

Darners: Family Aeshnidae

___ Common Green Darner *Anax junius* **C**; late Mar - Nov; our most commonly seen darner.

___ Comet Darner *Anax longipes* **R-O**; Jun - Jul

___ Swamp Darner *Epaeschna heros* **O**; May - Aug

___ Taper-tailed Darner *Gomphaeschna antilope* **h**; one record from Rocky River, Cuyahoga County; late June

___ Ocellated Darner *Boyeria grafiانا* **R**; Aug - Oct

___ Fawn Darner *Boyeria vinosa* **C**; late Jun - Oct

___ Springtime Darner *Basiaeschna janata* **R**; May - Jul

___ Shadow Darner *Aeshna umbrosa* **C**; Jul - Oct

___ Lance-tipped Darner *Aeshna constricta* **O**; late Jun - Oct

___ Spatterdock Darner *Rhionaeschna mutata* **R**; May - Jul

___ Black-tipped Darner *Aeshna tuberculifera* **h**; late Jul - Oct

___ Green-striped Darner *Aeshna verticalis* **R**; late Jul - Oct

___ Canada Darner *Aeshna canadensis* **h**, one Cuyahoga Co. record; **Ohio endangered species**; Aug - Oct

___ Taper-tailed Darner *Gomphaeschna antilope* **h**, one Cuyahoga Co. record from the Rocky River; Jun - Aug

Clubtails: Family Gomphidae

___ Dragonhunter *Hagenius brevistylus* **R**; Jun - Sep

___ Ashy Clubtail *Gomphus lividus* **O**; late May - Jul

___ Dusky Clubtail *Gomphus spicatus* **h**; no recent records; late May - July

___ Lancet Clubtail *Gomphus exilis* **O**; late May - Jul

___ Splendid Clubtail *Gomphus lineatifrons* **R**; Jun - early Jul

___ Midland Clubtail *Gomphus fraternus* **R**; May - Aug

___ Arrow Clubtail *Stylurus spiniceps* **O**; late Jul - Oct

___ Black-shouldered Spinyleg *Dromogomphus spinosus* **h**; Jun - Sep.

___ Unicorn Clubtail *Arigomphus villosipes* **C**; late May - Jul

___ Eastern Least Clubtail *Stylogomphus albistylus* **O-R**; Jun - Jul

___ Southern Pygmy Clubtail *Lanthus vernalis* **h**; June

___ Rusty Snaketail *Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis* **h**; late May - Aug

___ Riffle Snaketail *Ophiogomphus carolus* **R**; Jun - Jul; very rare; South Chagrin Reservation; **Ohio threatened species**

Spiketails: Family Cordulegastridae

___ Twin-spotted Spiketail *Cordulegaster maculata* **R**; May - Jul

___ Delta-spotted Spiketail *Cordulegaster diastatops* **R**; May - Jul

___ Arrowhead Spiketail *Cordulegaster obliqua* **R**; May - Jul

Cruisers: Family Macromiidae

___ Stream Cruiser *Didymops transversa* **R**; early May - Jul

___ Swift River Cruiser *Macromia illinoensis* **O**; May - Sep

___ Royal River Cruiser *Macromia taeniolata* **O**; late Jul - Sep

Baskettails and Emeralds: Family Corduliidae

___ Prince Baskettail *Epitheca princeps* **C**; late May - Sep

___ Common Baskettail *Epitheca cynosura* **C**; May - Jul

___ Slender Baskettail *Epitheca costalis* Status uncertain; confirmed in North Chagrin Res.; identification difficult.

___ Beaverpond Baskettail *Epitheca canis* **R**; early May - Jun; emerges earlier in spring than C. Baskettail.

___ Mocha Emerald *Somatochlora linearis* **O**; late Jun - Oct

___ Clamp-tipped Emerald *Somatochlora tenebrosa* **O-R**; late Jun - Sep

___ Uhler's Sundragon *Helocordulia uhleri* **h**; May - Jun; one sight record South Chagrin Res.; **Ohio endangered species**

Skimmers: Family Libellulidae

___ Widow Skimmer *Libellula luctuosa* **C**; late May - Sep

___ Common Whitetail *Libellula lydia* **C**; May - Sep

___ Twelve-spotted Skimmer *Libellula pulchella* **C**; May - Sep

___ Painted Skimmer *Libellula semifasciata* **O-R**; May - Aug

___ Great Blue Skimmer *Libellula vibrans* **R**; most recent record Rocky River Res., August 2008

___ Slaty Skimmer *Libellula incesta* **R**; late Jun - Sep

___ Variegated Meadowhawk *Sympetrum corruptum*; **R**

___ at least two records; strays occasionally some years

___ Blue-faced Meadowhawk *Sympetrum ambiguum* **R**; very rare; one record 8/12/02, Bradley Woods Res.

___ Autumn Meadowhawk *Sympetrum vicinum* **C**; Jul - Nov

___ Band-winged Meadowhawk *Sympetrum semicinctum* **R**;

___ Jun - Sep; very rare

___ Cherry-faced Meadowhawk *Sympetrum internum* **h**; Jun-Oct; identification difficult.

___ Ruby Meadowhawk *Sympetrum rubicundulum* **C**; May - Oct

___ White-faced Meadowhawk *Sympetrum obtusum* **R**;

___ late July - Oct

___ Eastern Amberwing *Perithemis tenera* **C**; late May - Sep

___ Blue Dasher *Pachydiplax longipennis* **C**; May - Sep

___ Eastern Pondhawk *Erythemis simplicicollis* **C**; May - Oct

___ Wandering Glider *Pantala flavescens* **C**; late May - Oct

___ Spot-winged Glider *Pantala hymenaea* **O**; Jun - Sep

___ Black Saddlebags *Tramea lacerata* **C**; May - Oct

___ Carolina Saddlebags *Tramea carolina* **R**; May - Aug

___ Red Saddlebags *Tramea onusta* **R**; Jun - Aug; very rare

___ Dot-tailed Whiteface *Leucorrhinia intacta* **C**; late May - Jul

___ Halloween Pennant *Celithemis eponina* **O**; Jun - Sep

___ Calico Pennant *Celithemis elisa* **O**; May - Sep

DAMSELFLIES: SUBORDER ZYGOPTERA

Broad-winged Damselflies: Family Calopterygidae

___ Ebony Jewelwing *Calopteryx maculata* **C**; May - Sep

___ American Rubyspot *Hetaerina americana* **C**; rivers; Jun-Oct

Spread-winged Damselflies: Family Lestidae

___ Great Spreadwing *Archilestes grandis* **O**; Jun - Oct; common at Garfield Park Reservation.

___ Elegant Spreadwing *Lestes inaequalis* **O**; late May - Aug

___ Amber-winged Spreadwing *Lestes eurinus* **R**; May - Jul

___ Spotted Spreadwing *Lestes congener* **C**; Jul - Oct

___ Lyre-tipped Spreadwing *Lestes unguiculatus* **R**;

___ Bradley Woods Reservation; Jun - Sep

___ Sweetflag Spreadwing *Lestes forcipatus* **O-C**; May - Sep

___ Northern Spreadwing *Lestes disjunctus* **R**; Jul - Sep

___ Southern Spreadwing *Lestes australis* **O-R**; Jul - Sep

___ Slender Spreadwing *Lestes rectangularis* **C**; late May - Sep

___ Emerald Spreadwing *Lestes dryas* **O**; May - Aug

___ Swamp Spreadwing *Lestes vigilax* **O**; Jun - Sep

Pond Damselfs: Family Coenagrionidae

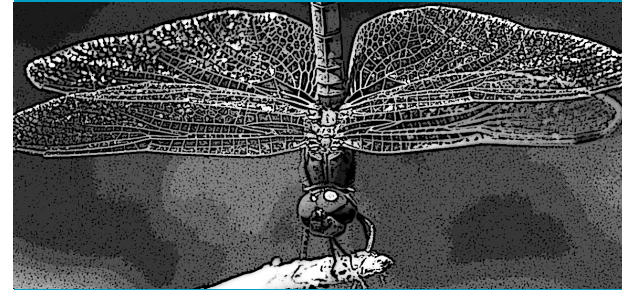
- ___ Eastern Red Damself *Amphiagrion saucium* **R**; Jun - Aug
- ___ Blue-fronted Dancer *Argia apicalis* **C**; late May - Sep
- ___ Violet Dancer *Argia fumipennis violacea* **C**; late May - Sep
- ___ Powdered Dancer *Argia moesta* **C**; late May - Oct
- ___ Blue-ringed Dancer *Argia sedula* **O**; late Jun - Sep
- ___ Blue-tipped Dancer *Argia tibialis* **O-C**; late May - Sep
- ___ Dusky Dancer *Argia translata* **R**; Jun - Sep
- ___ Aurora Damself *Chromagrion conditum* **O**; May - Jul
- ___ Turquoise Bluet *Enallagma divagans* **h**; May - Jul
- ___ Skimming Bluet *Enallagma geminatum* **C**; May - Oct
- ___ Orange Bluet *Enallagma signatum* **C**; May - Oct
- ___ Vesper Bluet *Enallagma vesperum* **h**; Jun - Sep
- ___ Stream Bluet *Enallagma exsulans* **O-C**; May - Sep
- ___ Marsh Bluet *Enallagma ebrium* **h**; May - Aug
- ___ Rainbow Bluet *Enallagma antennatum* **h**; no recent Cuyahoga Co. records; May - Sep
- ___ Familiar Bluet *Enallagma civile* **C**; May - Oct
- ___ Double-striped Bluet *Enallagma basidens* **O**; Jun - Oct
- ___ Tule Bluet *Enallagma carunculatum* **O**; Jun - Sep
- ___ Azure Bluet *Enallagma aspersum* **C**; May - Oct
- ___ Western Slender Bluet *Enallagma traviatum* **O**; Jun - Sep
- ___ Northern Bluet *Enallagma annexum* **h**; Jun - Jul
- ___ Fragile Forktail *Ischnura posita* **C**; May - Oct
- ___ Eastern Forktail *Ischnura verticalis* **C**; May - Oct; our most common damselfly
- ___ Citrine Forktail *Ischnura hastata* **R**; May - Sep
- ___ Sedge Sprite *Nehalennia irene* **O-R**; May - Jul

Notes

Acknowledgements:

Special thanks to Larry Rosche and Lou Gardella for their assistance in compiling this check list.

A Checklist of the Dragonflies & Damselflies of Cleveland Metroparks



Dragonflies and damselflies belong to the insect order *Odonata*. These insects spend the first months or even years of their lives as aquatic nymphs, eventually transforming into the winged adults that we are familiar with. Even in the adult stage, most species remain close to water, and their presence may reflect the health of our wetlands, rivers and streams. As nymphs and adults they are effective predators, eating many other insects.

Cleveland Metroparks: 81 species

50 dragonflies

31 damselflies

Ohio: 409 species

113 dragonflies

49 damselflies

North America: 435 species

307 dragonflies

128 damselflies

World: 5,500 - 6,000 species

Date/time: _____

Location: _____

Weather: _____

