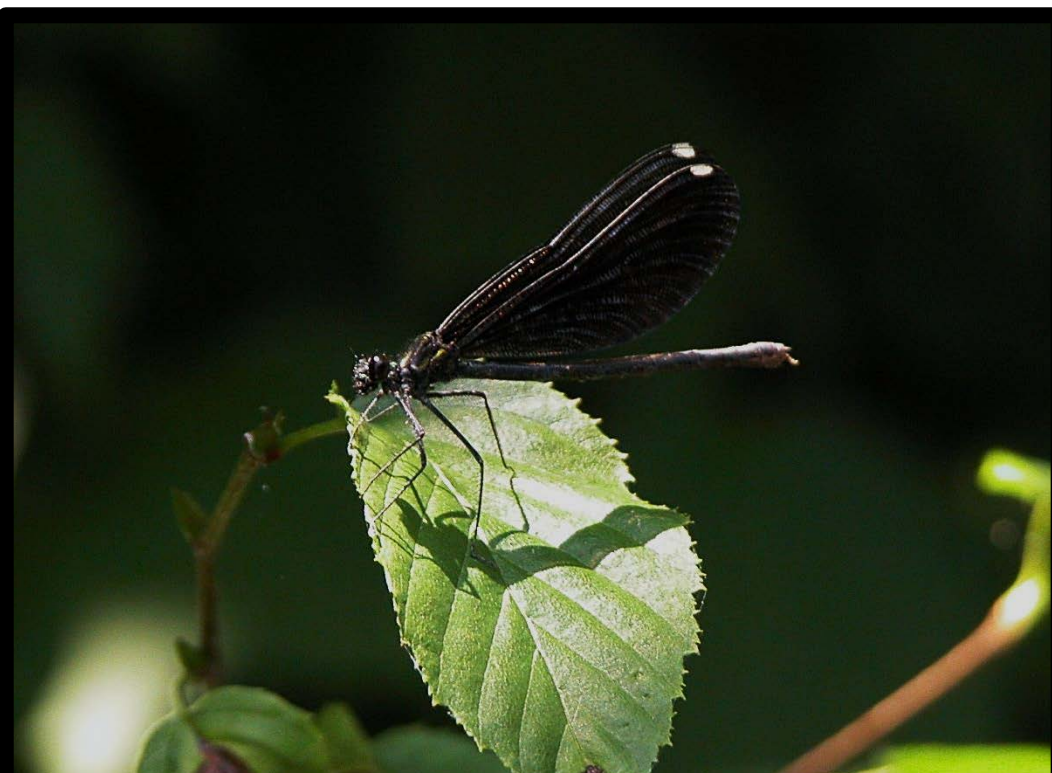
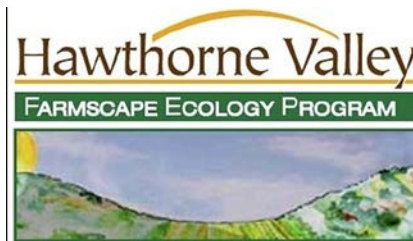


DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY



JEWELWINGS



JEWELWINGS



JEWELWINGS



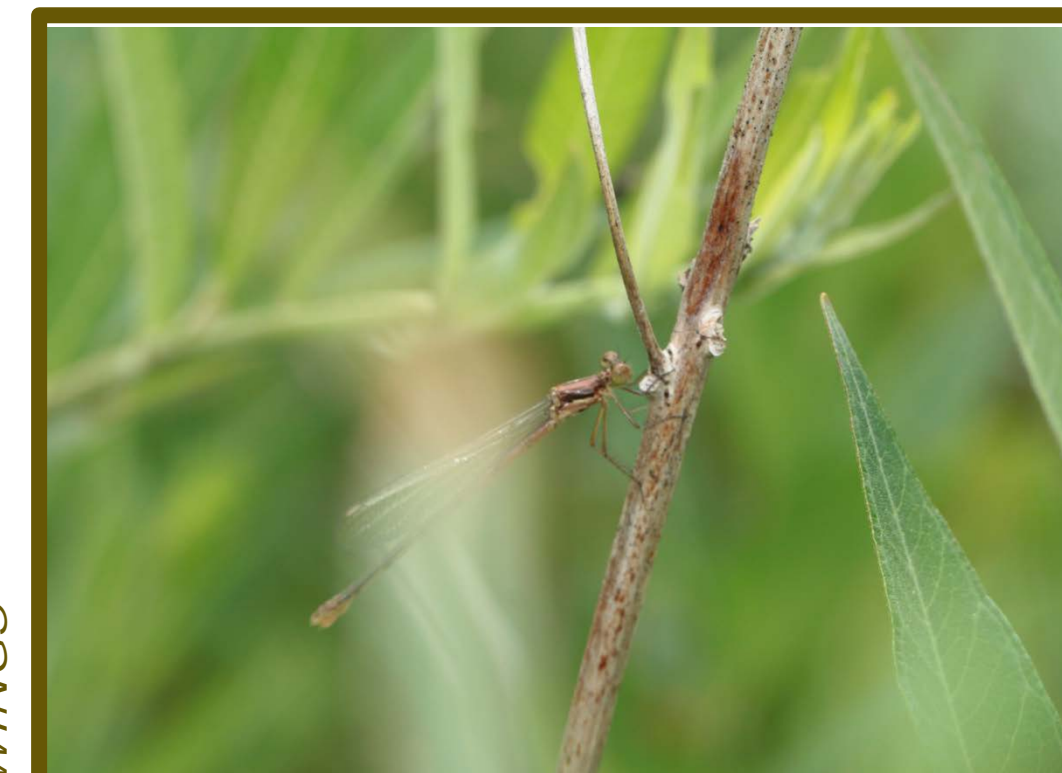
SPREADWINGS



SPREADWINGS



SPREADWINGS



SPREADWINGS



Ebony Jewelwing (*Calopteryx maculata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is an extremely easily recognizable damselfly, because of its green sheen, and black-brown wings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Ebony Jewelwings quite regularly, most often in shaded areas and along small streams.

River Jewelwing (*Calopteryx aquabilis*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a very distinctive damselfly, with a metallic green body and brown wings and black wing tips

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen quite a few River Jewelwings, although it is considered uncommon in our state. It can be seen around all types of rivers and streams.

Superb Jewelwing (*Calopteryx amata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is the largest of the Jewelwings, and can easily be distinguished from the others by the lack of black in its wings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only one Superb Jewelwing on record, and it is considered uncommon in New York. It can be found by the sides of small, shaded streams.

Amber-winged Spreadwing (*Lestes eurinus*)

DESCRIPTION: This medium-sized spreadwing's most characteristic feature is probably, as its name suggests, the light amber tint in its wings. This, along with the light blue dusting that males acquire with age, make it a relatively easy species to identify.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have come across Amber-winged Spreadwings only rarely in our area. It is state listed as S3/S4. They are most often found near still water, especially boggy or temporary ponds.

Elegant Spreadwing (*Lestes vigilax*)

DESCRIPTION: Like all spreadwings, the Elegant Spreadwing is long and slender, and holds its wings apart when perched. It is emerald green with the lower half of the thorax lighter and a blue tip of the abdomen. It is hard to distinguish from other large spreadwings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen very few Elegant Spreadwings, but it is not considered endangered. It can be found near still water in and shaded environments.

Slender Spreadwing (*Lestes rectangularis*)

DESCRIPTION: This long thin spreadwing looks similar to some other species, but it is unique in having white wing tips.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Slender Spreadwings quite regularly. It can be found around forested pools and small clearings.

Spotted Spreadwing (*Lestes congener*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small, stocky spreadwing with a mostly black-grey body with light yellow sides and blue eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Spotted Spreadwings only occasionally. They can be seen around still, marshy water.

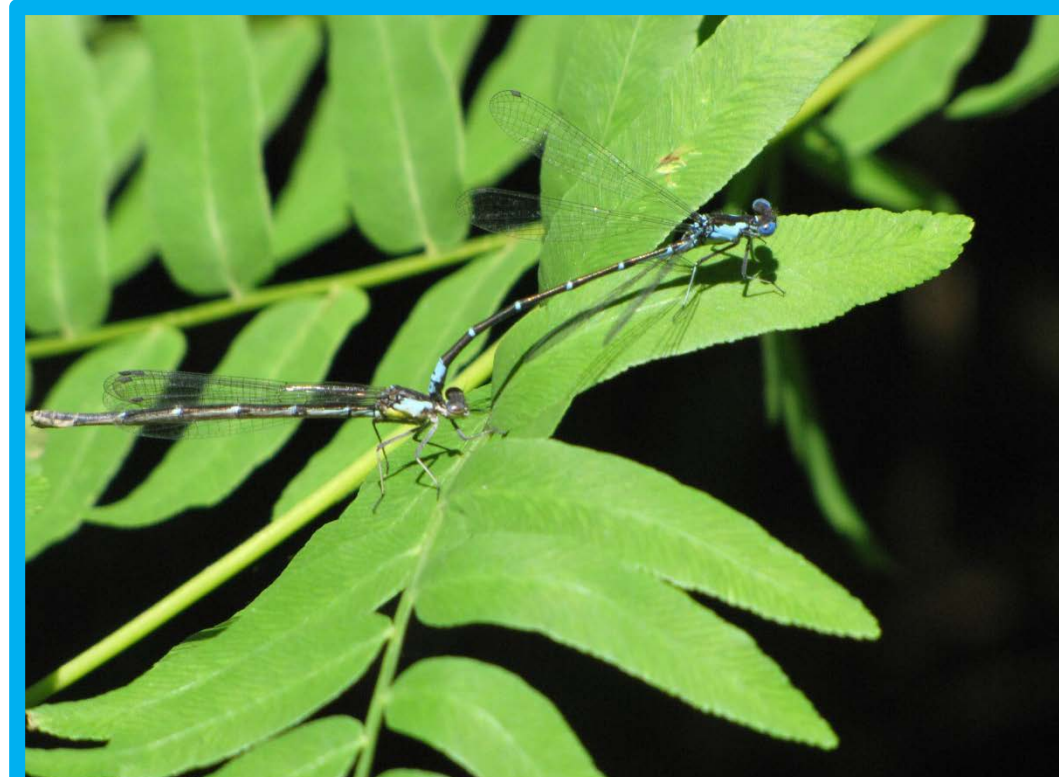
Swamp Spreadwing (*Lestes vigilax*)

DESCRIPTION: This is quite a large spreadwing. It has a metallic green abdomen and shoulders, and a blue-grey under belly and abdomen tip.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Swamp Spreadwings only occasionally. They can be found near still, swampy bodies of water.



JEWELWINGS



BLUETS



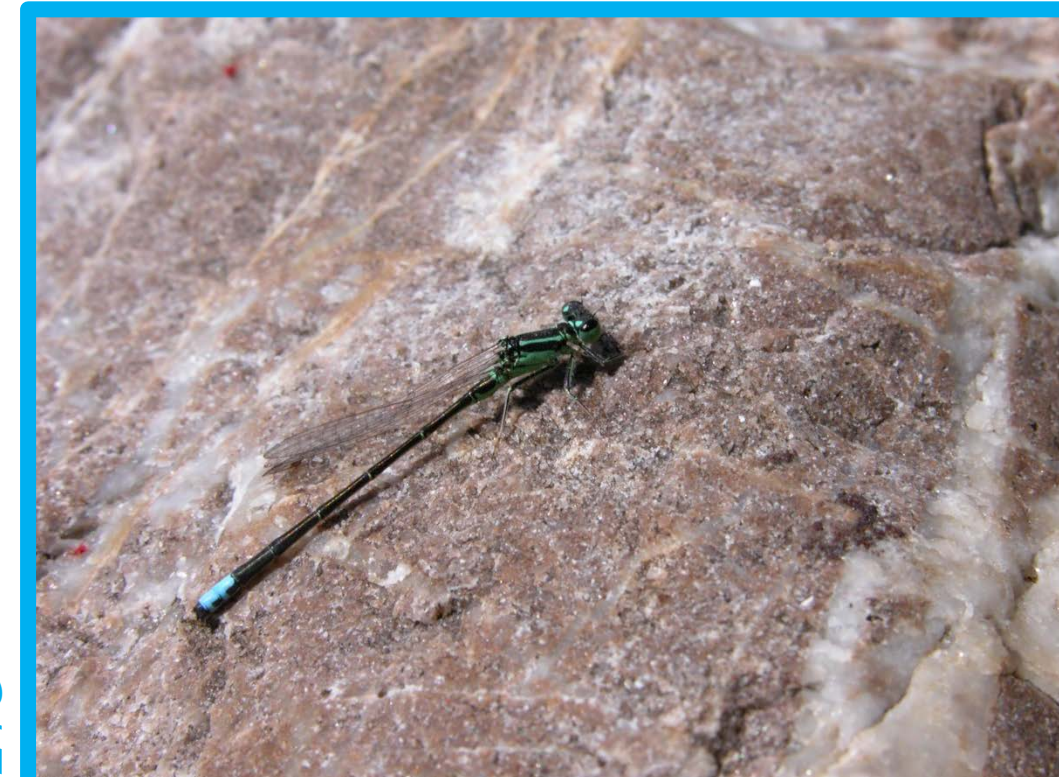
BLUETS



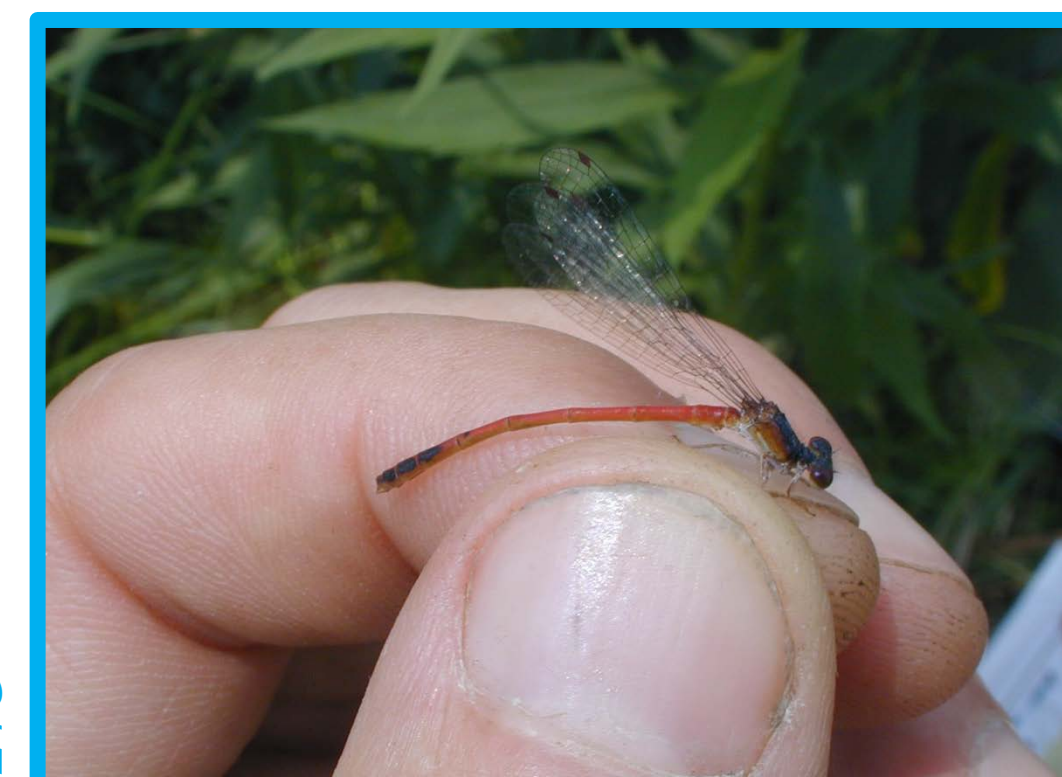
BLUETS



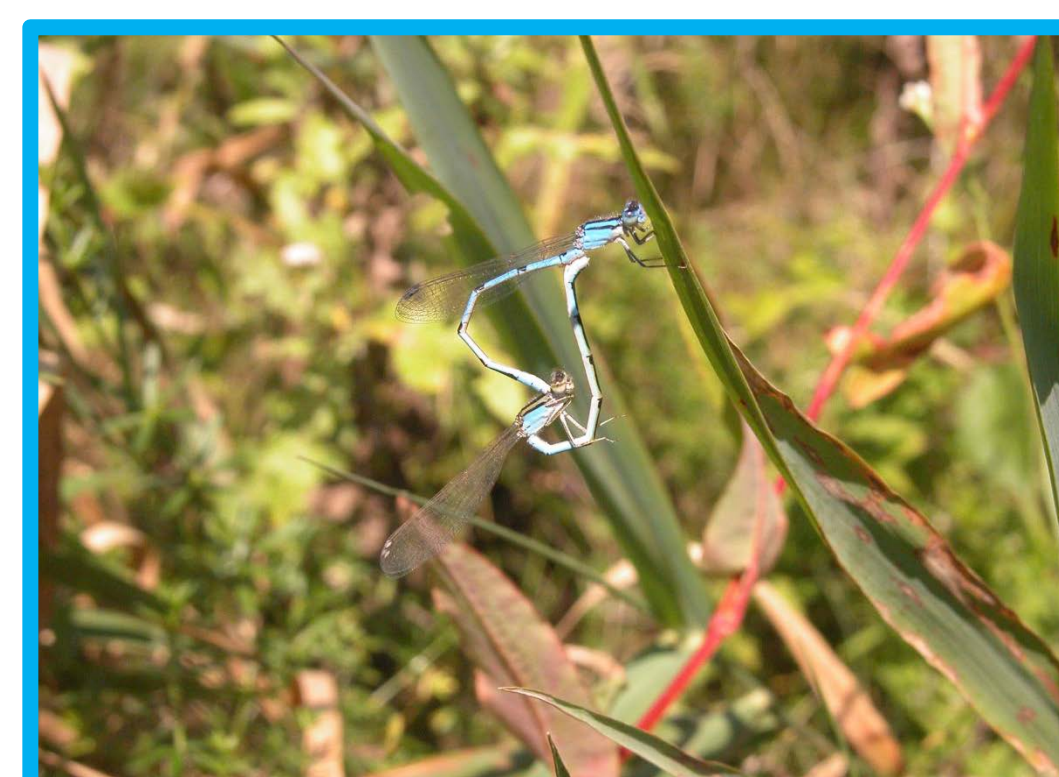
BLUETS



BLUETS



BLUETS



Sweetflag Spreadwing (*Lestes forcipatus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium sized spreadwing, with a grey-black body and blue eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see these spreadwings occasionally. It can be found flying around still, swampy water.

Aurora Damsel (*Chromagrion conditum*)

DIScription: This is one of the biggest damselfies in our area. It is light blue, with a bright, yellow patch on the lower portion of its thorax.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: As well as being one of our biggest damselfies, the Aurora is also one of our most common. It can be found near most water, especially slow-moving or stagnant ponds where they can be seen flitting around the shore or perched on vegetation.

Azure Bluet (*Enallagma aspersum*)

DIScription: This small, slender bluet is distinctive for its black thorax with bright blue tip.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: This is one of our most common bluets, and can be found near most slow-moving water.

Big Bluet (*Enallagma durum*)

DIScription: This relatively large damselfly can be hard to tell apart from other pond bluets. However, some distinguishing characteristics are the two wide, black dorsal stripes, and the arrowhead marking on the top of the abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: This damsel is most often found around swampy ponds, or along slow-moving rivers. Although we have found it relatively often, it is classified as "vulnerable" in New York State.

Double-striped Bluet (*Enallagma basidens*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small bluet that looks very similar to several other species. However, it has an easily recognizable distinguishing feature: in both males and females the black shoulder stripe on the thorax is divided down the center by a thin blue line.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Double-striped Bluets occasionally and once in large numbers. It is a NY S3, "uncommon" species. It can be found around the edges of still water where there is vegetation.

Eastern Forktail (*Ischnura verticalis*)

DESCRIPTION: The Eastern Forktail is small and slender. This species is easily identified by the male's green thorax and black abdomen with blue tip. Females can be dull grey-blue with green eyes or bright orange with black stripes and abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: These are probably the most common damselfies that we see during our surveys. They can be found anywhere from ponds and the edges of slow moving rivers to fields.

Eastern Red Damselfly (*Amphiagrion saucium*)

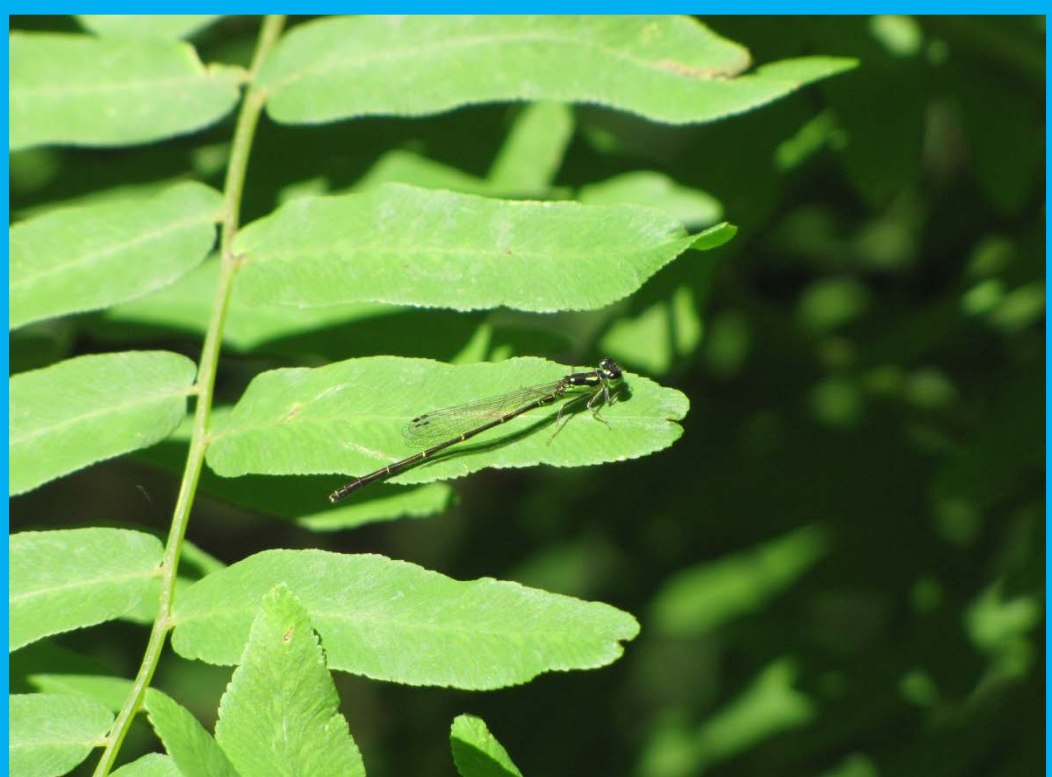
DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small damselfly, easily identified by the bright red coloration of both sexes. It can look similar to the orange variant of female Eastern Forktails, but can be distinguished by its relative lack of black.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen only one Eastern Red Damselfly, although it is not recognized as endangered in New York. It can be found around ponds or other stationary water.

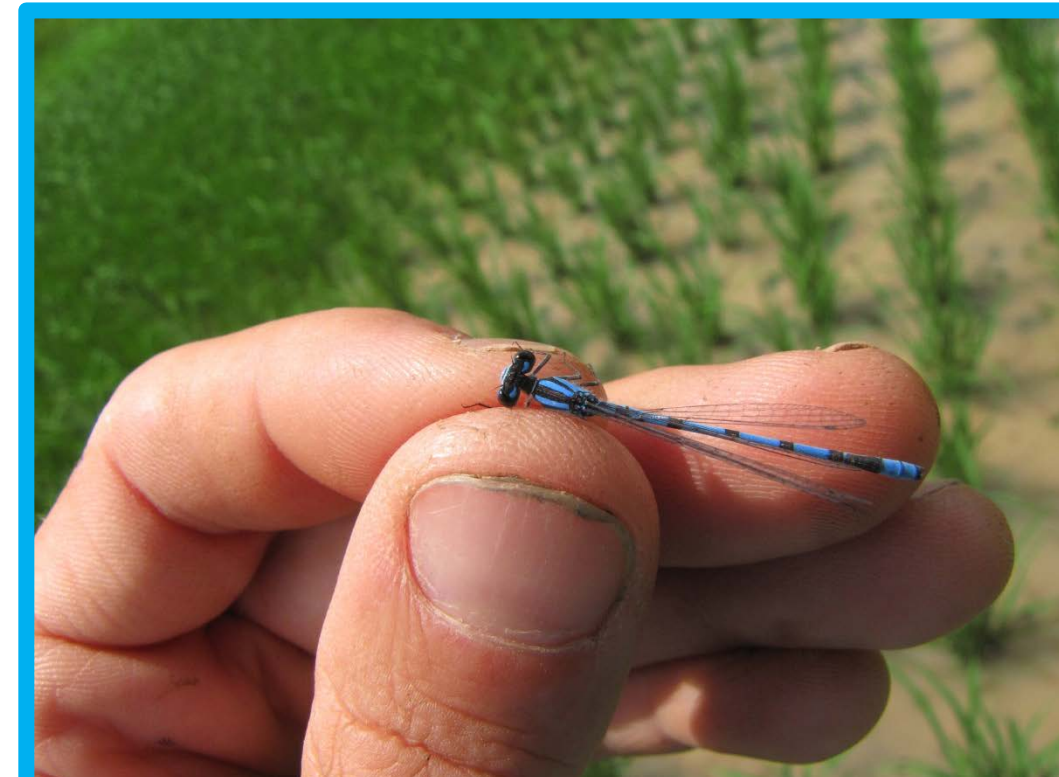
Familiar Bluet (*Enallagma civile*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a large bluet, mainly blue in coloration, but with black lines on its thorax and rings around the base of its abdominal sections. Females are typically a paler blue verging on violet. It is nearly impossible to distinguish from other bluets like the Northern, Tule, and Big in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see familiar bluets regularly. It can be found around large, slow-moving water bodies.



BLUETS



BLUETS



BLUETS



BLUETS



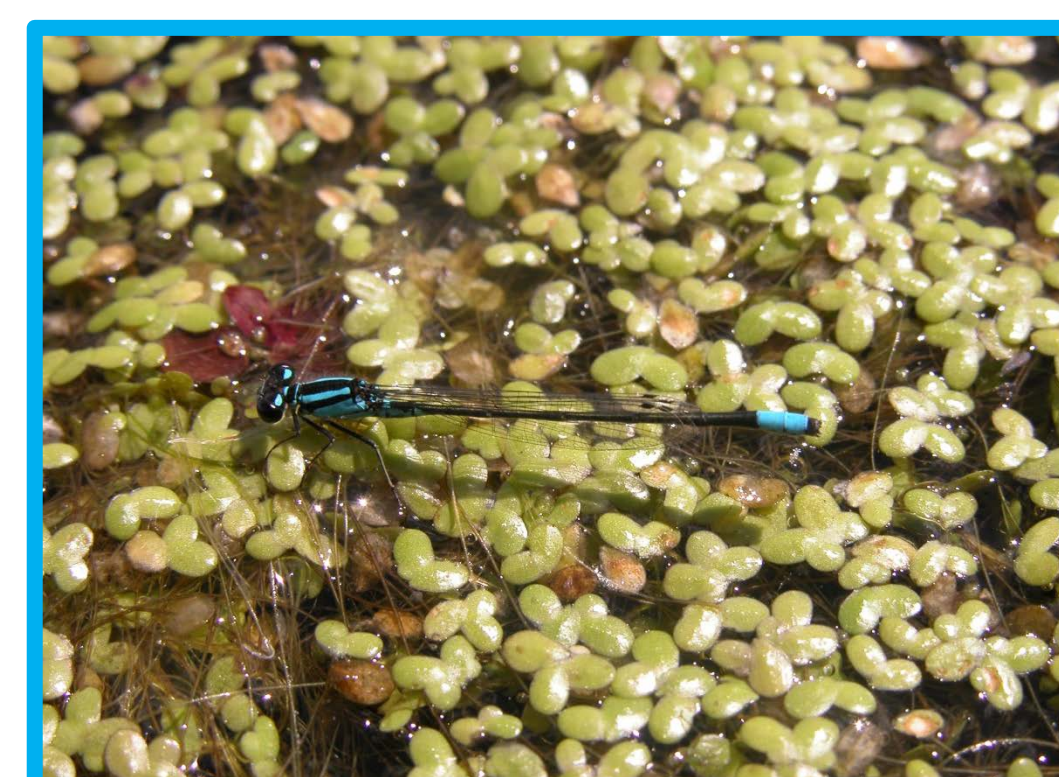
BLUETS



BLUETS



BLUETS



Fragile Forktail (*Ischnura posita*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a tiny damselfly, easily distinguished from other forktails by the upside-down exclamation points on its shoulders. Males are a bright green, with females a more subdued grey-purple.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We come across Fragile Forktails quite frequently. They can be found in a range of habitats, from the edges of ponds, forested swamps, and streams to open fields.

Hagen's Bluet (*Enallagma hageni*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small bluet. The male is mostly blue while the female is a grey-green. Hard to distinguish from the Marsh Bluet in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Hagen's Bluets only occasionally, mostly along the edges of ponds.

Marsh Bluet (*Enallagma ebrium*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small bluet, with alternating blue/black marking on the abdomen giving way to pure blue for the second and third to last segments. It can be indistinguishable from other bluets in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have several Marsh Bluets. They can be found around wetlands and open swamps.

Northern Bluet (*Enallagma cyathigerum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a fairly typical bluet, although slightly larger than most and with quite thin shoulder stripes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have not seen many Northern Bluets, although it occurs relatively regularly in our state. It can be most often be seen around still water and nearby vegetation.

Orange Bluet (*Enallagma signatum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is the only orange bluet in our area, although female Eastern Forktails can look similar. It is orange with a mostly black abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen quite a few orange bluets. It can be found near all sorts of still water.

Powdered Dancer (*Argia moesta*)

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the largest damselfies. Its abdomen is mostly black, while the thorax is a distinctive powdery blue-grey.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see powdered dancers occasionally, and it is relatively common in our area. It can be found around medium to large rivers, ponds, and lakes.

Sedge Sprite (*Nehalennia irene*)

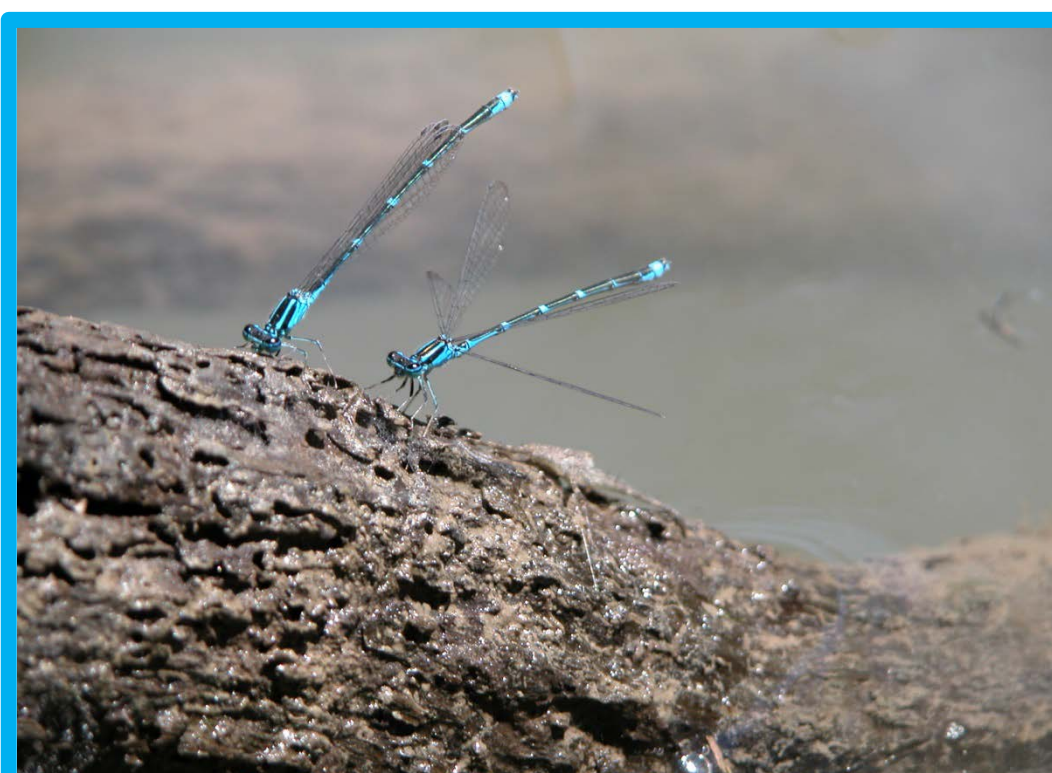
DESCRIPTION: This is an extremely small, slender damselfly. It has a metallic green sheen on its abdomen and upper thorax, and a blue under belly.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen Sedge Sprites occasionally, although due to their small size they are hard to spot. They can be found in wet, grassy, mostly open areas.

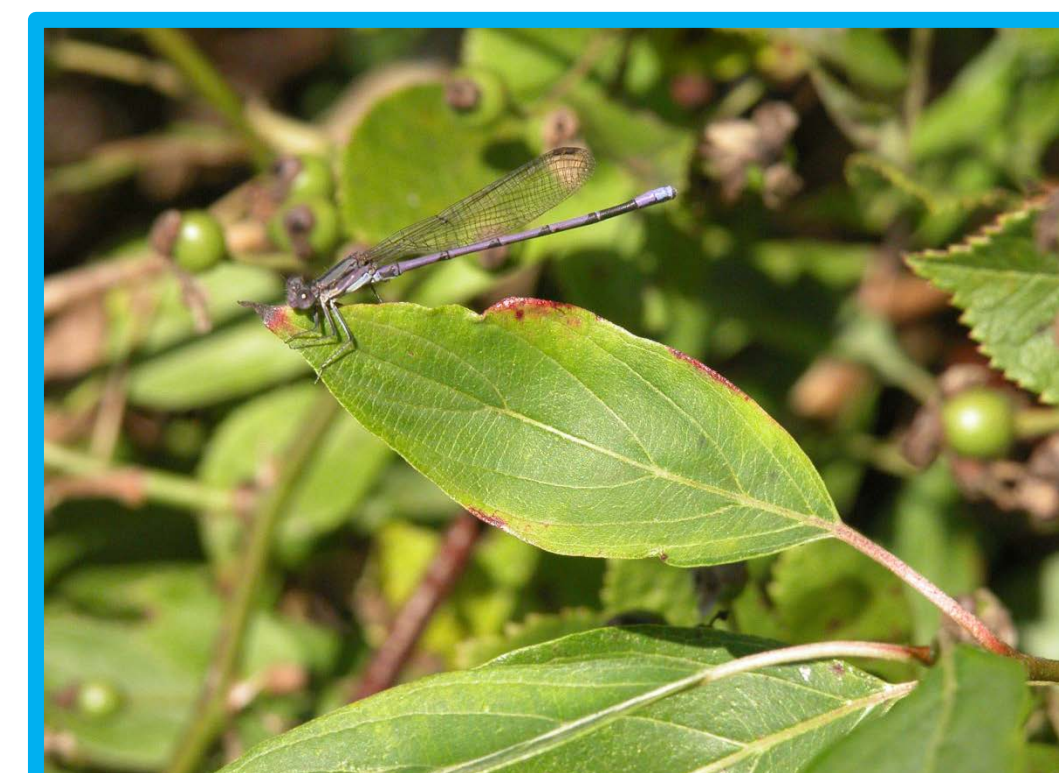
Skimming Bluet (*Enallagma geminatum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small bluet. Its abdomen is mostly black, although it has a blue tip.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen Skimming Bluets occasionally. It can be found around the edges of most types of water



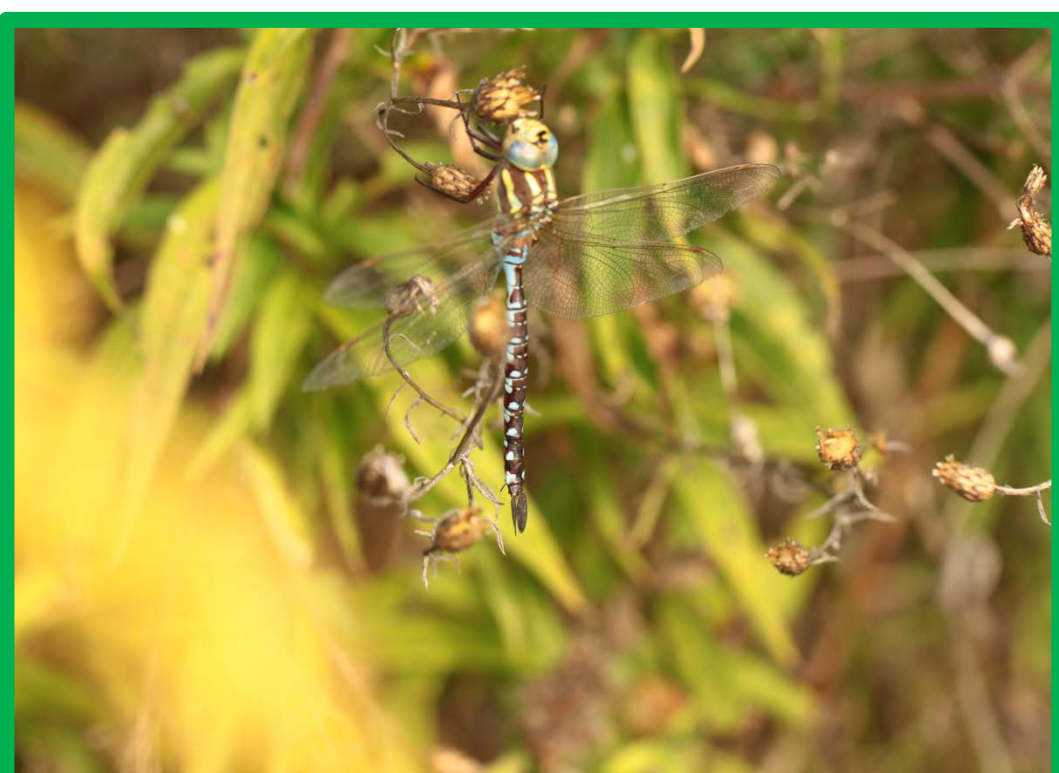
BLUETS



BLUETS



BLUETS



DARNERS



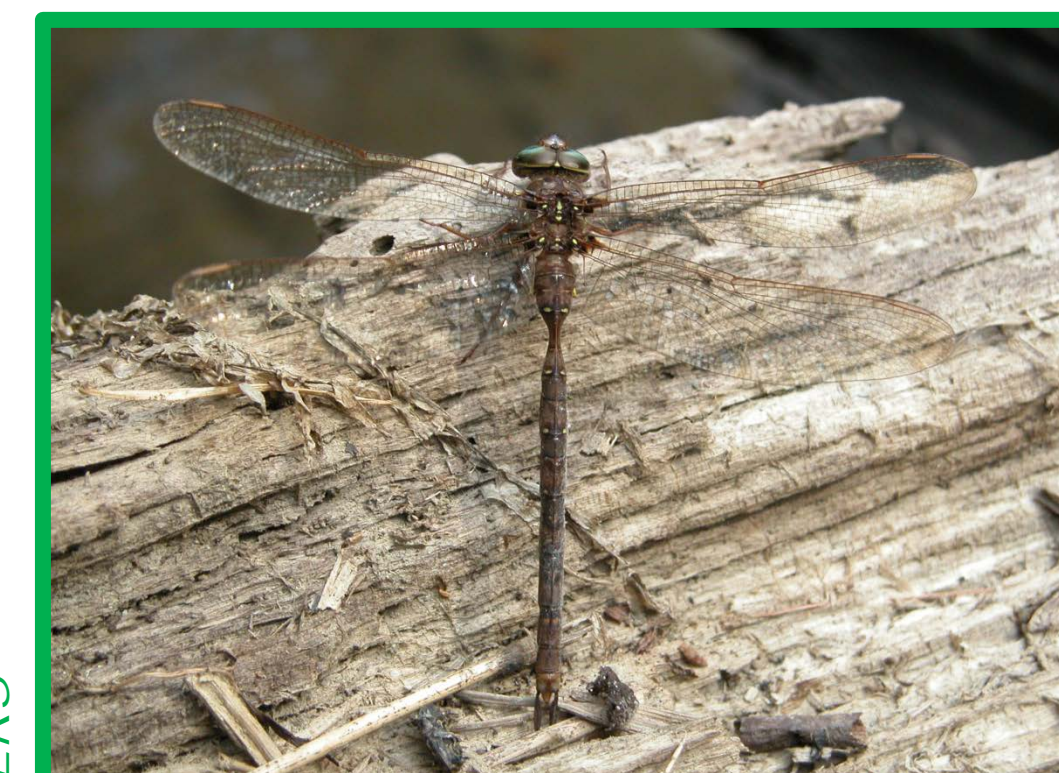
DARNERS



DARNERS



DARNERS



Stream Bluet (*Enallagma exsulans*)

DESCRIPTION: This bluet can be quite hard to distinguish from similar species, but the large amount of black in its abdomen narrows the options.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Stream Bluets quite often, mostly along the sides of streams and lakes.

Variable Dancer (*Argia fumipennis*)

DESCRIPTION: This medium-sized dancer is distinctive because it is the only purple damselfly in our area.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see variable dancers quite frequently. It can be found around the edges of most slow or still water.

Vesper Bluet (*Enallagma vesperum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is the only bluet in our area that has a bright yellow thorax. Its abdomen is mostly black, with a blue tip.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen one Vesper Bluet. When it can be found, it is usually around ponds and lakes.

Black-tipped Darner (*Aeshna tuberculifera*)

DIScription: This dragonfly is similar to the Canada Darner, the Green-striped Darner, and the Lance-tipped Darner, with two broad green/blue dorsal stripes and a mottled blue abdomen. However, distinctively the tip of the abdomen is entirely black.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: These darners can be found relatively frequently, cruising over fields in swarms with other darners, or hunting along the edge of water. It is rated as 'apparently secure' in New York State.

Canada Darner (*Aeshna canadensis*)

DESCRIPTION: This large brown and green/blue darner can be a challenge to tell apart from other similar species. A key feature is a small yellow spot between the two lateral stripes on its thorax.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have found only a few Canada Darners but it is not recognized as endangered in NY. It can often be found in late summer/early fall hunting over fields or along the shores of slow-moving water, sometimes in large, mixed-species swarms.

Comet Darner (*Anax longipes*)

DESCRIPTION: This is one of our largest darners and is most similar to the Common Green Darner. It can be distinguished from this species by the bright red (vs blue) male abdomen and the female's blue eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen a couple of Comet Darners, and never during an official survey. It has a NY status of S2, or "impaired". It can be found around ponds patrolling or hunting over fields, although not in swarms like other darners.

Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*)

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the most easily identified darners around even when on the wing. The combination of its bright green thorax and the bright blue tail in males set it apart. The Common Green also has a distinct "cyclops eye", something missing from Comet Darners.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen plenty of Common Green Darners in our surveys, and it is not endangered. It can be seen over small ponds, skimming the edges of lakes, or hunting over fields.

Fawn Darner (*Boyeria vinosa*)

DESCRIPTION: Comparatively small for a darner, the Fawn Darner is stocky, brown in coloration, with two yellow spots on the side of the thorax.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen a few Fawn Darners, mostly in forested swamps or shaded streams.



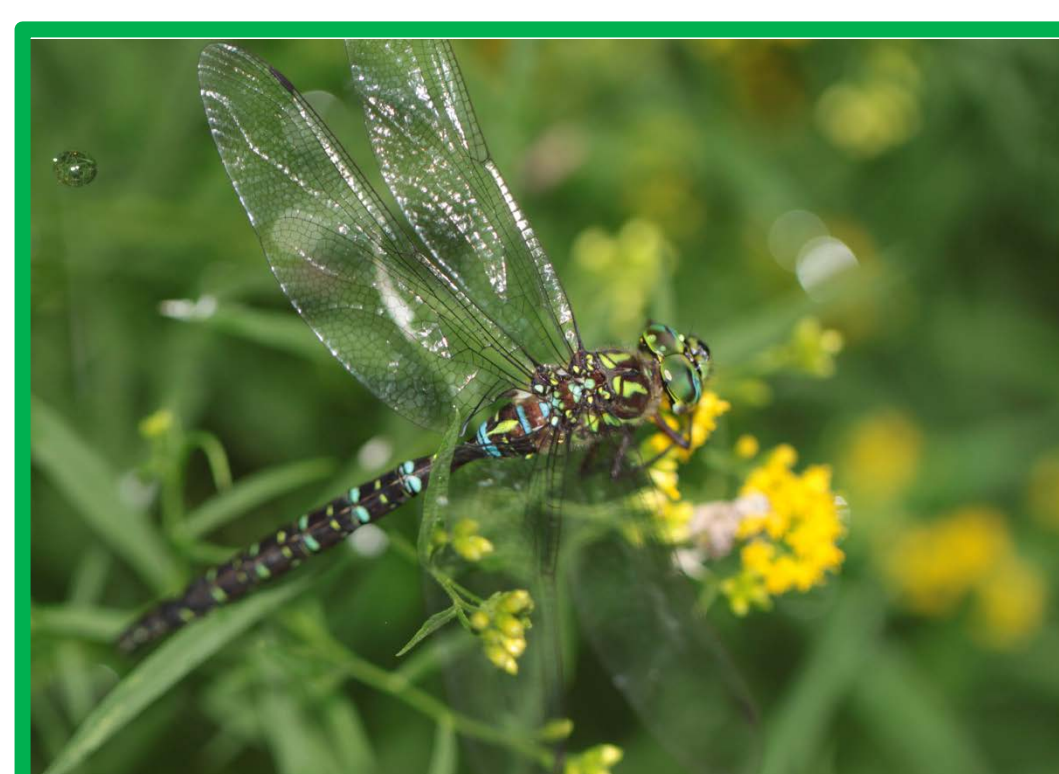
DARNERS



DARNERS



DARNERS



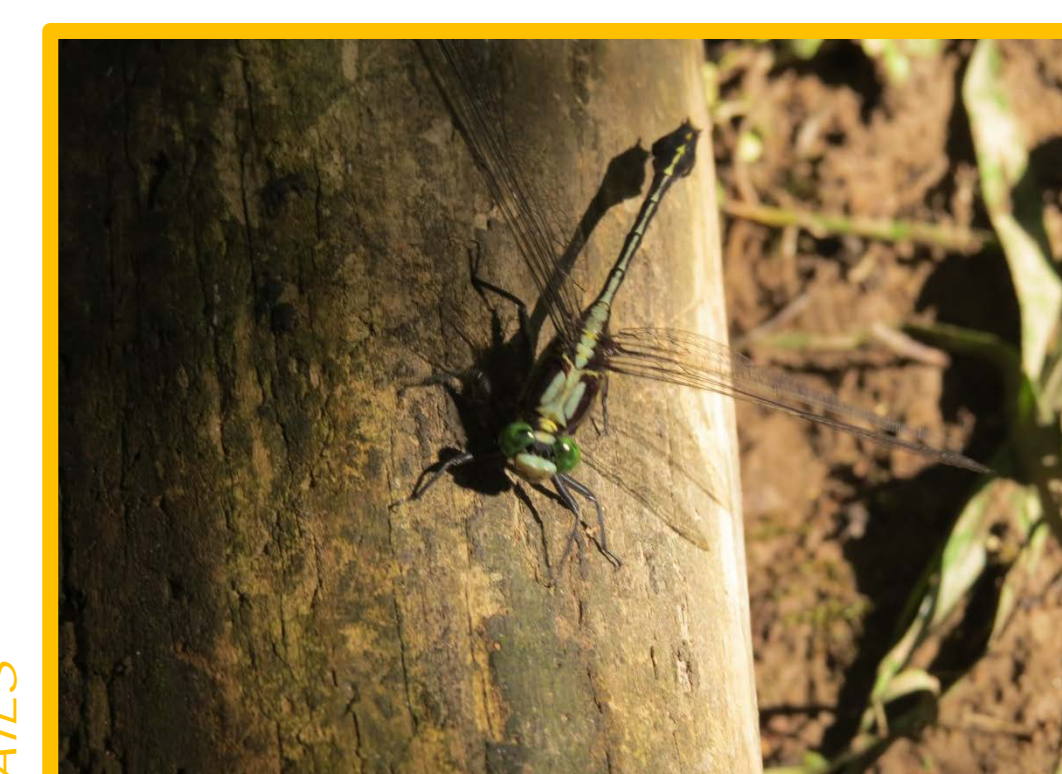
DARNERS



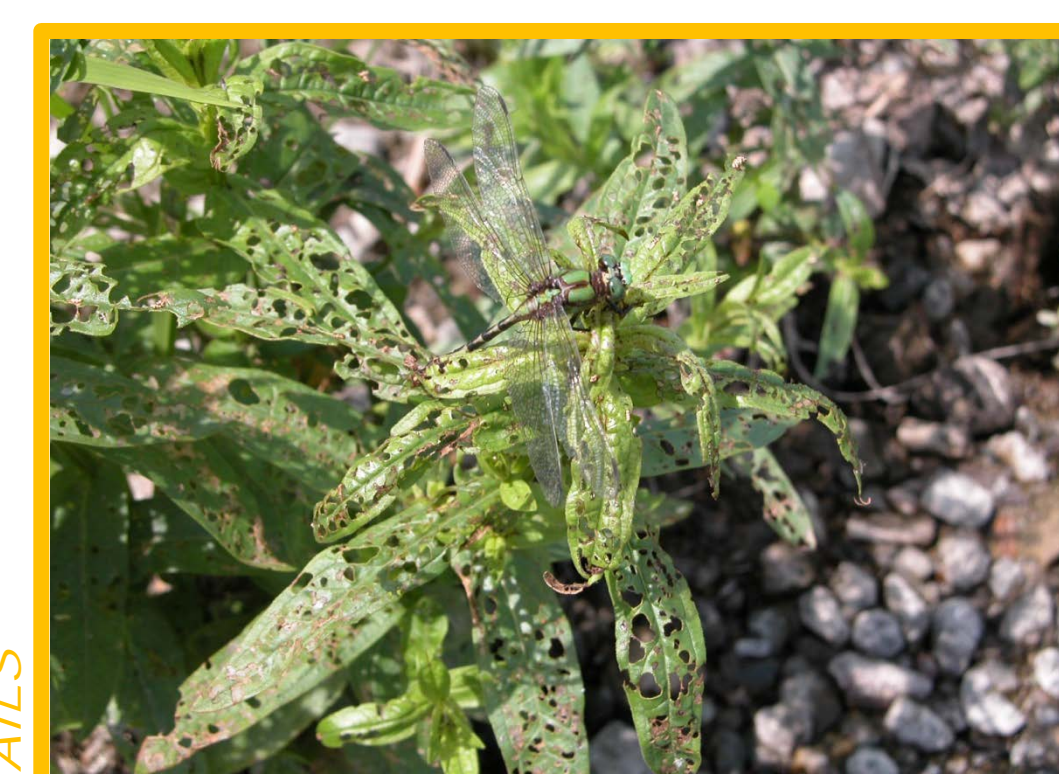
DARNERS



CLUBTAILS



CLUBTAILS



Green-striped Darner (*Aeshna verticalis*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a large dragonfly, with a blue and black pattern on its abdomen and two green stripes on each side of its black thorax. It can be extremely hard to distinguish from other mosaic darners in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Green Darners occasionally, mostly over fields in the evening feeding with other darners.

Harlequin Darner (*Gomphaeschna furcillata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the smallest darners. It is mostly brown, with a complex light green-yellow pattern on its abdomen. It can appear very similar to other darners, and can be impossible to tell apart from other darners in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen four Harlequin Darners, but they are not considered endangered in New York. They can be seen feeding at the edges of forests, occasionally in swarms.

Lance-tipped Darner (*Aeshna constricta*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a typical example of a mottled darner. It has a blue and black abdomen, and two stripes on its thorax which range from green to blue. It is nearly impossible to distinguish from other darners in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen a couple of Lance-tipped Darners, although it is not considered endangered. Like other darners, it can be found patrolling over fields and ponds, or in afternoon feeding swarms.

Shadow Darner (*Aeshna umbrosa*)

DESCRIPTION: This mosaic darner can be distinguished by the black outlines on its dorsal stripes and the relative dullness of its abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen a few Shadows Darners (at least on record), but it is quite common in our state. It is a shade-loving species, and can often be found flying along forest edges or in feeding swarms at dusk.

Springtime Darner (*Basiaeschna janata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small darner. It has two green dorsal stripes and can look quite similar to other mosaic darners, although they are commonly larger.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only one recorded sighting of a Springtime Darner, but it is not endangered in New York. It can be found patrolling the edges of ponds or flying over fields. It commonly perches near the ground.

Arrow Clubtail (*Stylurus spiniceps*)

DIScription: This graceful, dark green and black dragonfly is most remarkable for its long, thin abdomen which flares to a "club" at the end.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: This particular clubtail has been classified as "vulnerable" in New York State, and we have seen only one in our surveys. They are most often found patrolling over sandy streams or perched on the banks.

Black-shouldered Spinyleg (*Dromogomphus spinosus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small clubtail with a very thin abdomen. One of its most distinctive feature is the entirely green sides of its thorax with no obvious stripes. It has a small head with bright green eyes.

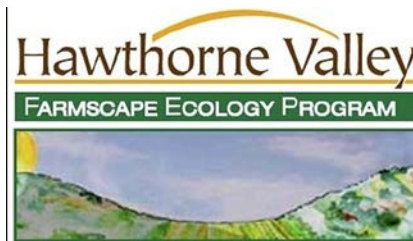
BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen one Black-shouldered Spinyleg during our surveys. Despite this, it is not officially recognized as vulnerable. They can be found around clear, rocky streams.

Brook Snaketail (*Omphigomphus aspersus*)

DIScription: This dragonfly is very similar to other clubtails. It has a bright green thorax with a single dorsal stripe and double shoulder stripes and a black abdomen with yellow dagger shaped markings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen 3 Brook Snaketails. They are classified as vulnerable in NY. Like most clubtails, it can be found over clear, running water; the Brook Snaketail prefers open, sunny streams.

DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

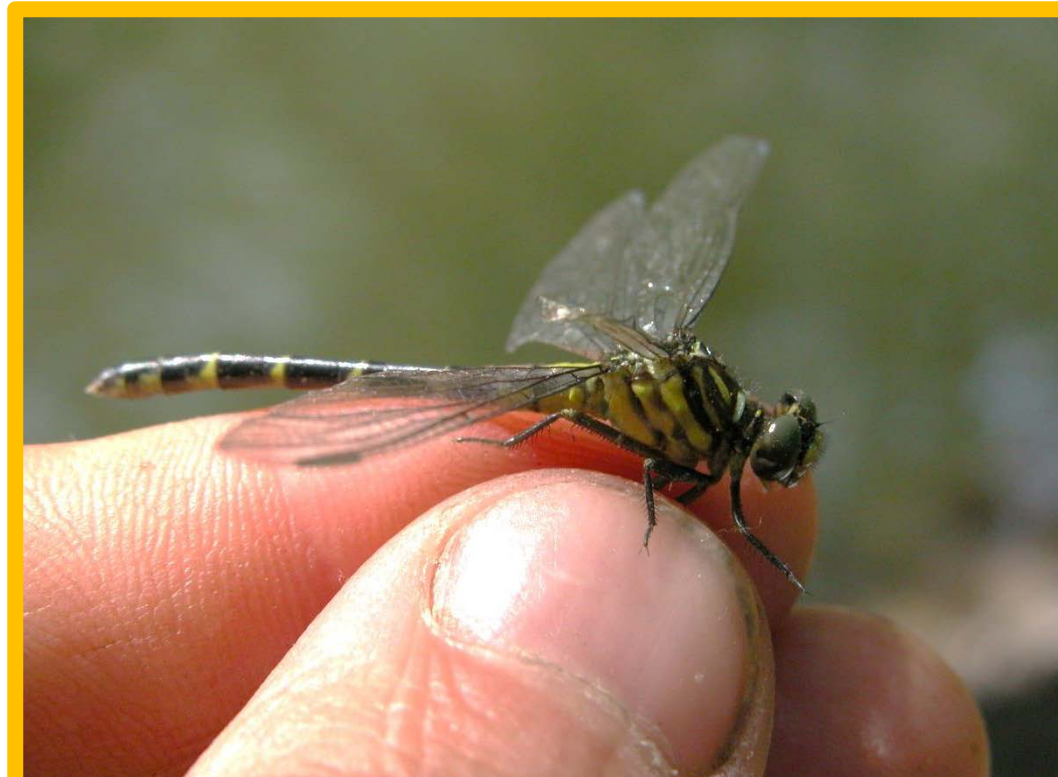


CLUBTAILS

Dragonhunter (*Hagenius brevistylus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a very large, sleek clubtail almost the size of a damner. Its most defining feature is its disproportionately small head, which is surprisingly recognizable in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: In all our surveys we have only ever come across one Dragonhunter, although it is not recognized as endangered in New York. It can be found along streams, especially shaded ones.



CLUBTAILS

Dusky Clubtail (*Gomphus spicatus*)

DESCRIPTION: This mid-sized, drab, green-brown clubtail can be extremely hard to distinguish from other clubtails, although its stocky-ness can lower the possibilities.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen only one Dusky Clubtail, although it is considered secure in New York. They fly over slow moving or still water low to the ground.

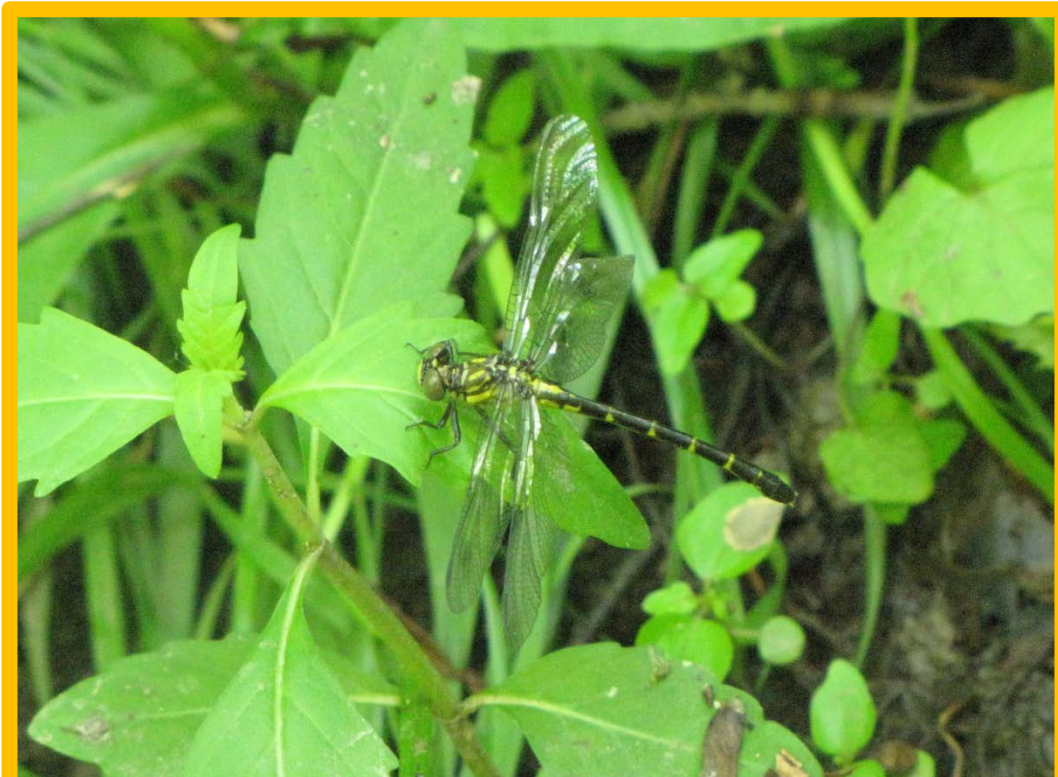


CLUBTAILS

Lancet Clubtail (*Gomphus exilis*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a relatively small Clubtail. It is mostly brown, and has a relatively small club. While it can be hard to distinguish from other clubtails, it can be told apart by the light yellow dorsal markings on its abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen several Lancet Clubtails. They hunt over fields and roads, and perch on rocks near water.

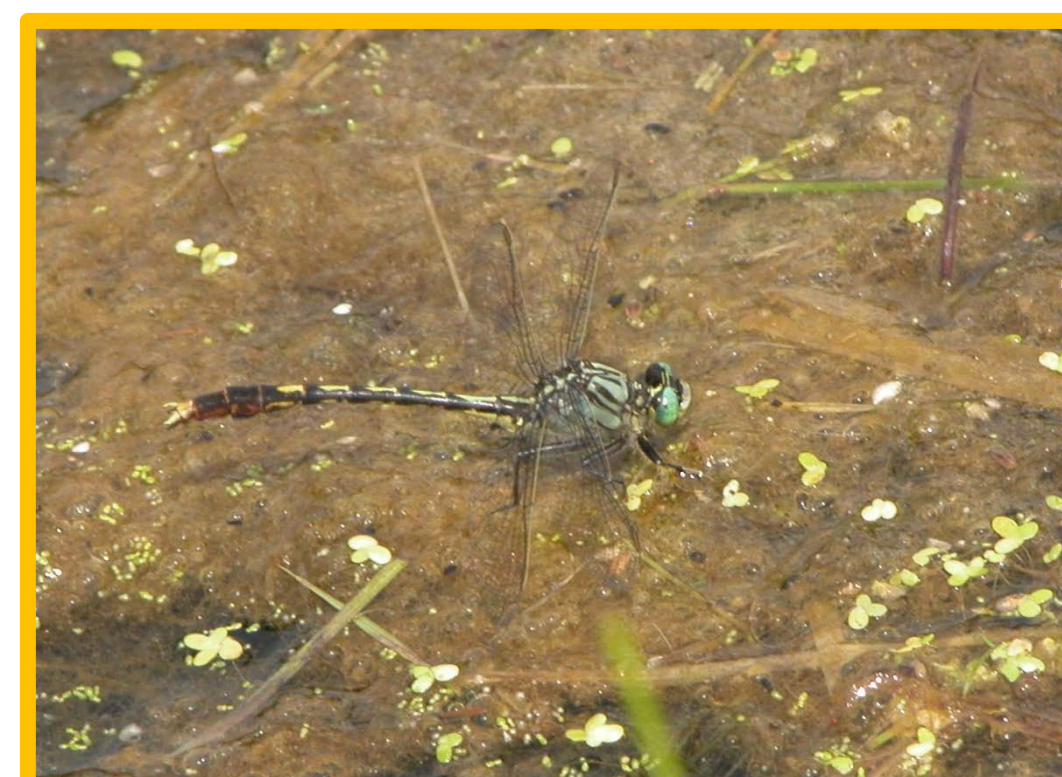


CLUBTAILS

Least Clubtail (*Stylogomphus albistylus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is one of the smallest clubtails in our area. It has a thin black abdomen with a small club and thin yellow rings. It has green eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Least Clubtails only rarely. When we do see them, they tend to be around rocky streams.



CLUBTAILS

Lilypad Clubtail (*Arigomphus furcifer*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium-sized, stocky, non-descript, green-grey clubtail.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen a couple of Lilypad Clubtails. It is not considered endangered. It can most often be found around still water and slow streams.

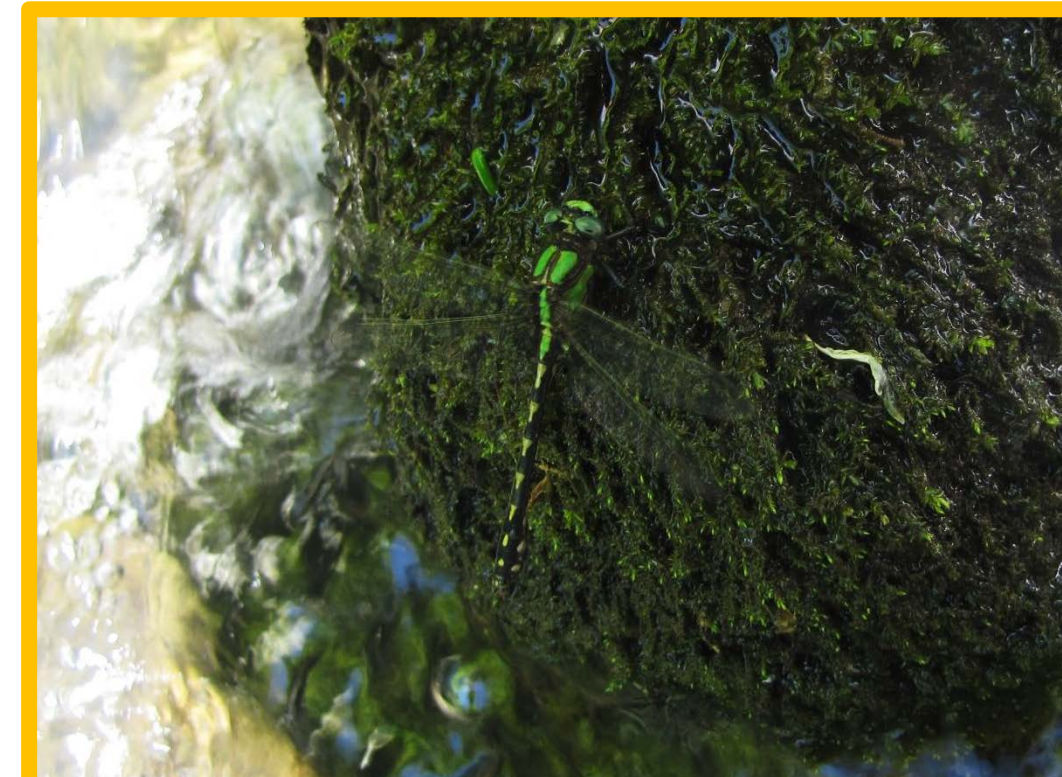


CLUBTAILS

Northern Pygmy Clubtail (*Lanthus parvulus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a very small, thin clubtail. It is almost entirely black, with yellow dorsal stripes on its thorax.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen one of these clubtails, and it is considered uncommon in New York. It can be found over small shaded streams.

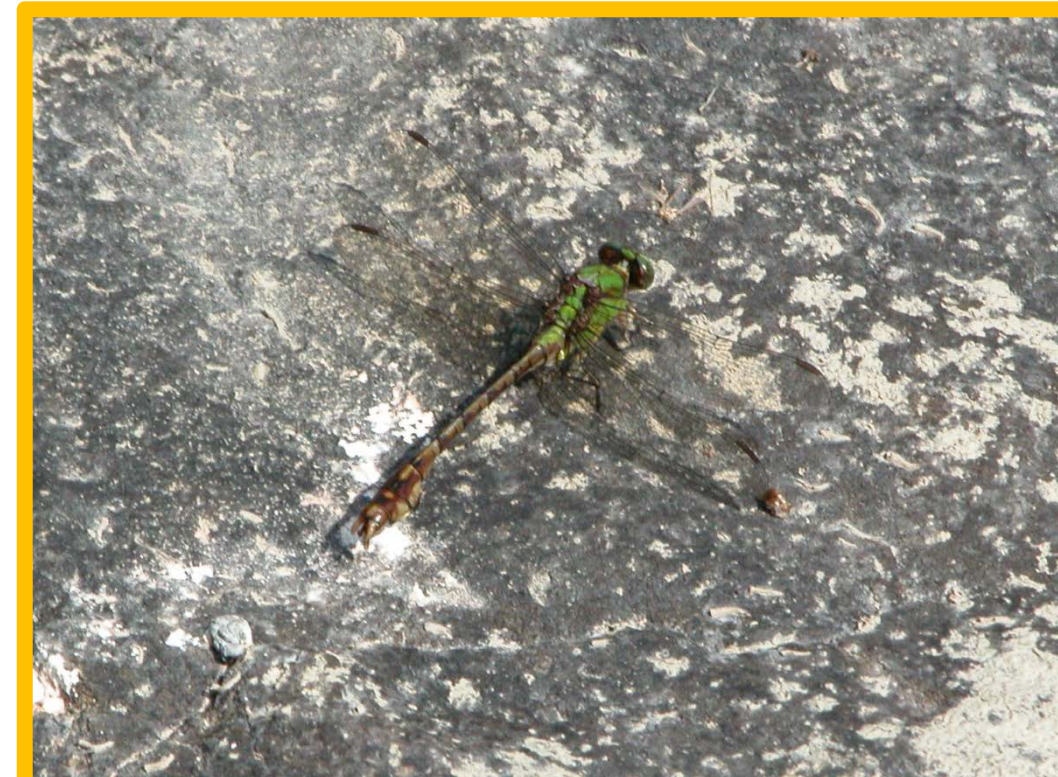


CLUBTAILS

Rifle Snaketail (*Ophiogomphus carolus*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small dragonfly, with a black abdomen and light green/yellow markings. It has a slight club at the end of its abdomen.

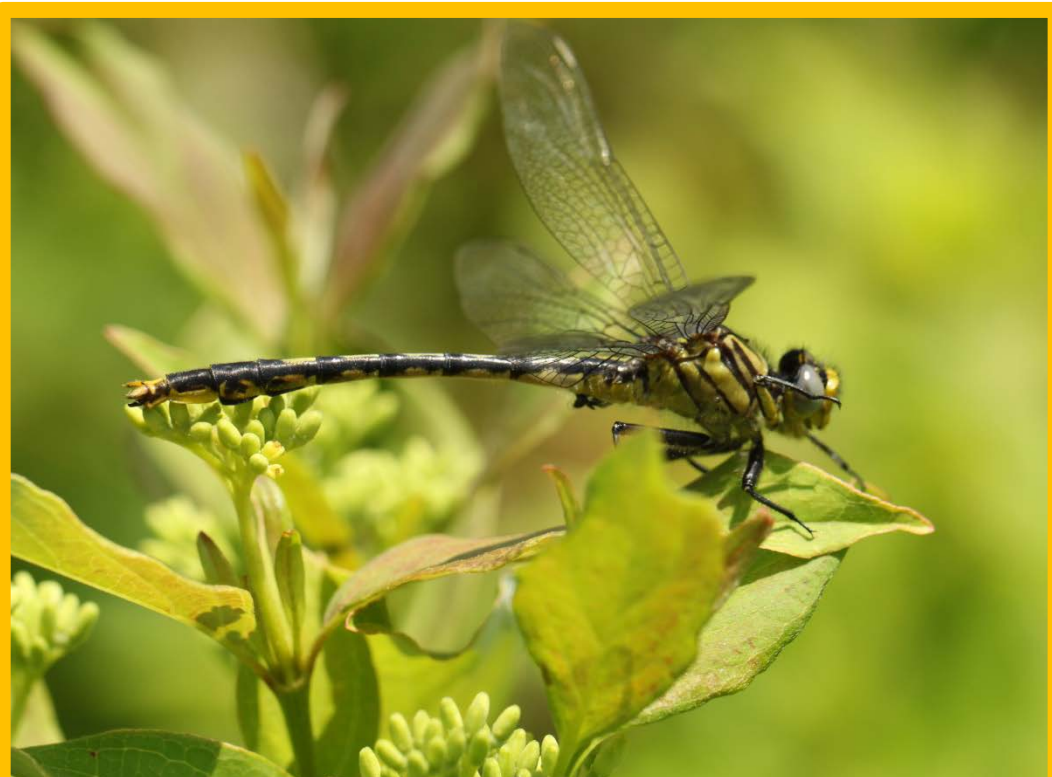
BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen a few Rifle Snaketails, and it is considered uncommon in New York. It can be found near swift streams and small rivers.



Rusty Snaketail (*Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium-sized dragonfly with a green thorax and black abdomen with yellow markings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen four Rusty Snaketails, and it is considered uncommon. It can be found near rivers and perched on nearby rocks.



CLUBTAILS

Unicorn Clubtail (*Arigomphus villosipes*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium-sized clubtail that is mostly grey-green in color. It has spots down each side of its abdomen, and these become progressively more yellow as they approach its pronounced club.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only one sighting of a Unicorn Clubtail on record, but it is not considered endangered. It can mainly be found around ponds and lakes.



CRUISER

Zebra Clubtail (*Stylurus scuderi*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a stocky dragonfly with a very pronounced club. The yellow rings on each of its abdominal segments distinguish it from other clubtails.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen three Zebra Clubtails, and it is considered uncommon in New York. It can be seen next to streams and small rivers.



SPIKETAIL

Illinois River Cruiser (*Macromia illinoensis*)

DESCRIPTION: This Cruiser is quite easy to distinguish from all other dragonflies. It is almost entirely black, with a single yellow dorsal stripe and a prominent yellow spot at the base of its abdomen. Its eyes are bright green.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Illinois River Cruisers occasionally, most often patrolling low over a shaded river, although they can be seen in more open areas and even in swarms.



EMERALDS

Twin-spotted Spiketail (*Cordulegaster maculata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a distinctively stocky, mostly black spiketail. It has yellow markings on the sides and shoulders of its thorax and pairs of rounded yellow dots running down its abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen two of these dragonflies, although it is not endangered. It can be seen around rocky, shaded streams and patrolling along field edges.

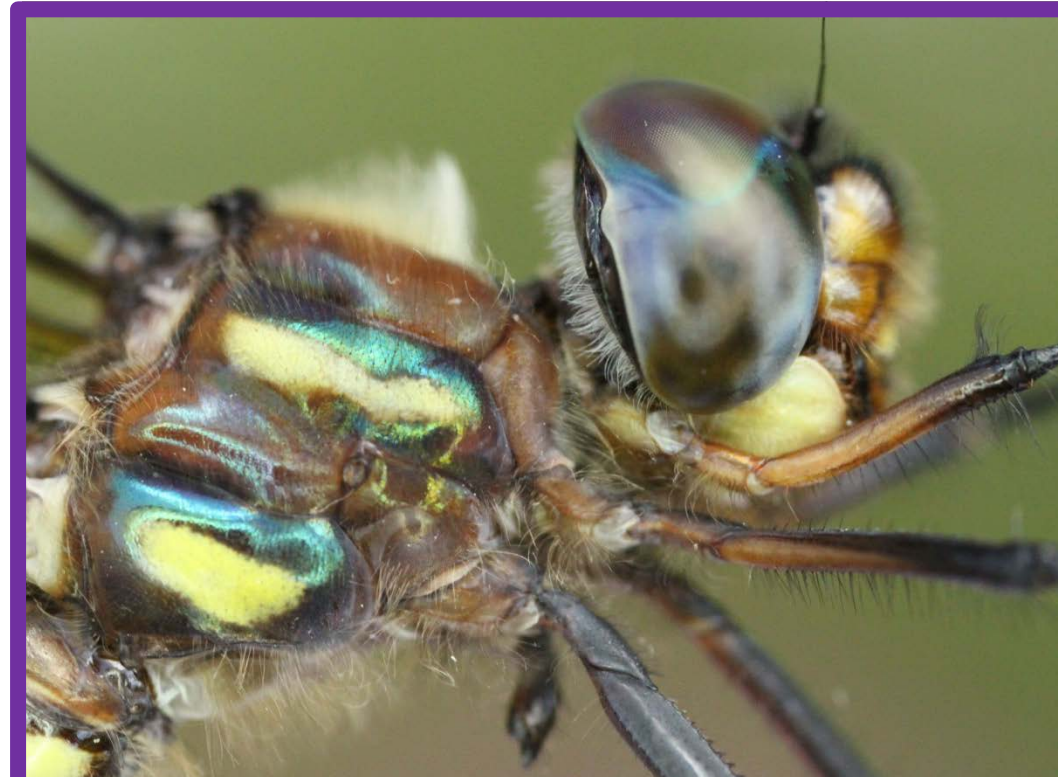


EMERALDS

American Emerald (*Cordulia shurtleffi*)

DESCRIPTION: This small(4 1/2cm), dark-brown/black, metallic dragonfly is relatively inconspicuous, and can be a challenge to distinguish from other emeralds. However, its size and flared abdomen tip help to narrow down the possibilities.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only come across 8 individual American Emeralds, although it is not of official conservation concern. It is most often found next to still ponds, or over sunny meadows looking for prey.



EMERALDS

Clamp-tipped Emerald (*Somatochlora tenebrosa*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a mid-sized emerald, with a glossy, metallic brown thorax and abdomen and eyes that range from bright green to grey. This species' defining characteristic is the clamp-shaped structure at the end of the male's abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen only two Clamp-tipped Emeralds during surveys in Columbia County, but state-wide it is not recognized as threatened. It can be found cruising or perching at the edge of fields and along shady tree lines.



EMERALDS

Common Baskettail (*Epitheca cynosura*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small, non-descript dragonfly with a brown thorax and black abdomen with yellow spots. It is similar in appearance to other baskettails, the only distinguishing feature being a small black spot at the base of the hind wing in some individuals.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen several Common Baskettails in our surveys, although not in large numbers. It is not endangered. Individuals can be found around ponds or perched on grasses in neighboring fields.



Prince Baskettail (*Epitheca princeps*)

DESCRIPTION: This is an instantly recognizable baskettail, with its black wing markings and bright green eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We only have one or two recorded sightings of Prince Baskettails, although due to their tendency to hunt at tree-top level they might well be around in greater numbers. It is not endangered.



SKIMMERS

Racket-tailed Emerald (*Dorocordulia libera*)

DESCRIPTION: This is an extremely small emerald, with a nondescript black abdomen and brown thorax.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have only seen one Racket-tailed Emerald in our area, although statewide it is not considered rare. It can be seen over ponds and bogs, or patrolling along the edges of forests.

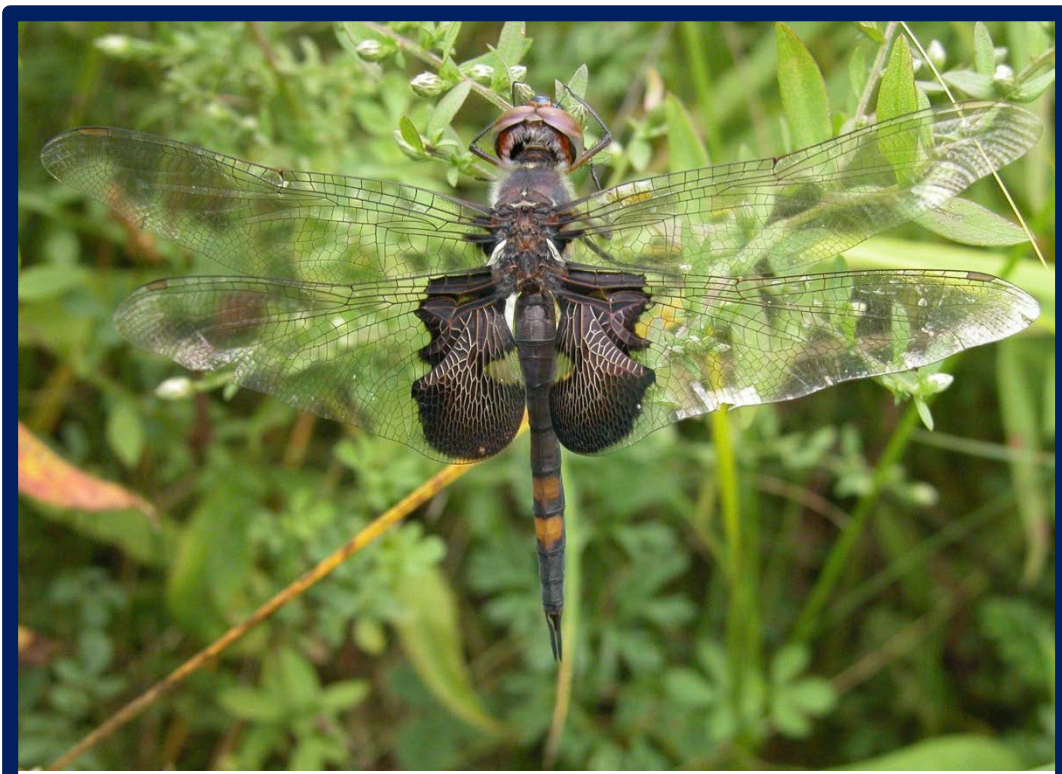


SKIMMERS

Band-winged Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum semineinctum*)

DISCRPTION: This small, red dragonfly is easily distinguished from other meadowhawks by the amber stripes at the base of its wings. However, this can be less distinct in mature individuals.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: This is one of the meadowhawks that we have come across most often in our surveys. As its name suggests it can usually be found in meadows and fields, patrolling or perched on grass stems.



SKIMMERS

Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*)

DISCRPTION: This medium-sized, chunky dragonfly is relatively easy to identify because of the black "saddle" on its hind wings. Also, the bright yellow dot in its otherwise black abdomen is a very distinctive feature.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: Although almost never seen in large numbers, Black Saddlebags can very often be found over fields and meadows, hunting.



SKIMMERS

Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*)

DISCRPTION: This is a small dragonfly, and easily distinguished by its blue abdomen and striped green thorax – a bit like a mini-darner.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: The Blue Dasher is a common dragonfly. It can be found skimming over most still ponds, or perched on vegetation.

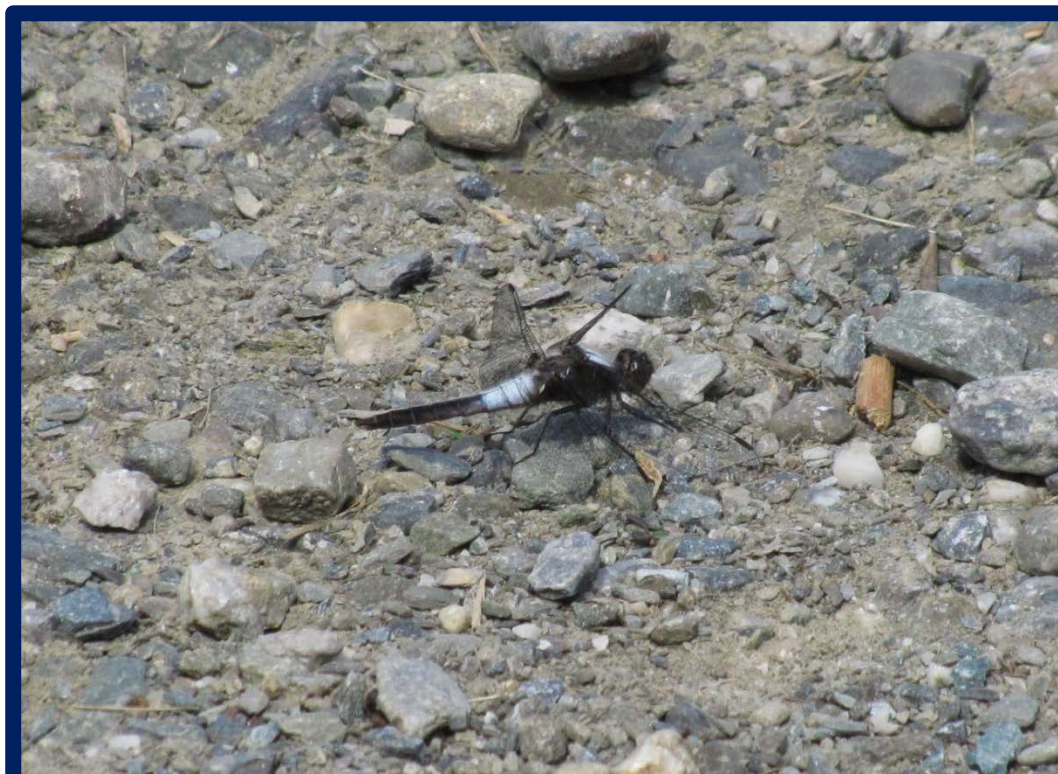


SKIMMERS

Calico Pennant (*Celithemis elisa*)

DISCRPTION: This small red dragonfly is distinctive because of the coloring on its wings. It has one large brown spot at the base of its hind wing, brown tips to all wings, and smaller dots in the center along the 'leading edge'.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen nearly one hundred Calico Pennants in the county. It can be found around ponds or in nearby fields perched on the ends of grasses.



SKIMMERS

Chalk-fronted Corporal (*Ladona julia*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a distinctive dragonfly, with a chalk white thorax and base of abdomen. It is relatively small, with entirely transparent wings and (apart from the white parts) a black body.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have come across Chalk-fronted Corporals regularly next to ponds and small lakes. We haven't actually seen all that many, but this is mainly because they rarely stray from the water. It is not recognized as being threatened in any way in New York.



SKIMMERS

Cherry-faced Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum internum*)

DESCRIPTION: This small dragonfly stands out because of its bright red coloration. However, it is extremely similar to other meadowhawks such as the Ruby, and nearly indistinguishable in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: Although we have seen several Cherry-faced Meadowhawks, a walk through a field is much more likely to turn up a Ruby Meadowhawk. It is not endangered in New York, and can most commonly be found around small ponds or near by fields.



Common Whitetail (*Plathemis lydia*)

DESCRIPTION: The males of this species are recognizable because of their blue/white abdomens and black patches on their wings. Females have three black spots on each wing, making them look similar to Twelve-spotted Skimmers

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen hundreds of Common Whitetails. They are abundant, and seem to be able to manage with all types and conditions of water (although they avoid anything fast-moving.) They can also be found in fields perched on vegetation or foraging.



SKIMMERS

Dot-tailed Whiteface (*Leucorrhinia frigida*)

DESCRIPTION: With its small size, black body, bright white face and yellow spot on its tail this is an easily distinguished dragonfly. Females look similar to other whitefaces, but they retain the unique large, square, yellow spot on their tail.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Dot-tailed Whitefaces regularly, though not in large numbers. It is not endangered. Individuals can often be found around ponds or other small stagnant bodies of water.



SKIMMERS

Eastern Amberwing (*Perithemis tenera*)

DESCRIPTION: This is the smallest dragonfly in our area. It is red-brown, and the male has several brown patches in its wings. The female's wings vary from entirely clear to amber in color.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Eastern Amberwings regularly around ponds and other still water, or perched on vegetation in nearby fields.



SKIMMERS

Eastern Pondhawk (*Pachydiplax longipennis*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium-small dragonfly, who's most defining characteristic is the bright white end of the abdomen. Males are a dull blue, while females are a striking green with black markings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Eastern Pondhawks quite regularly. They can most often be found around ponds, although the females can frequently be spotted perched on vegetation in fields.

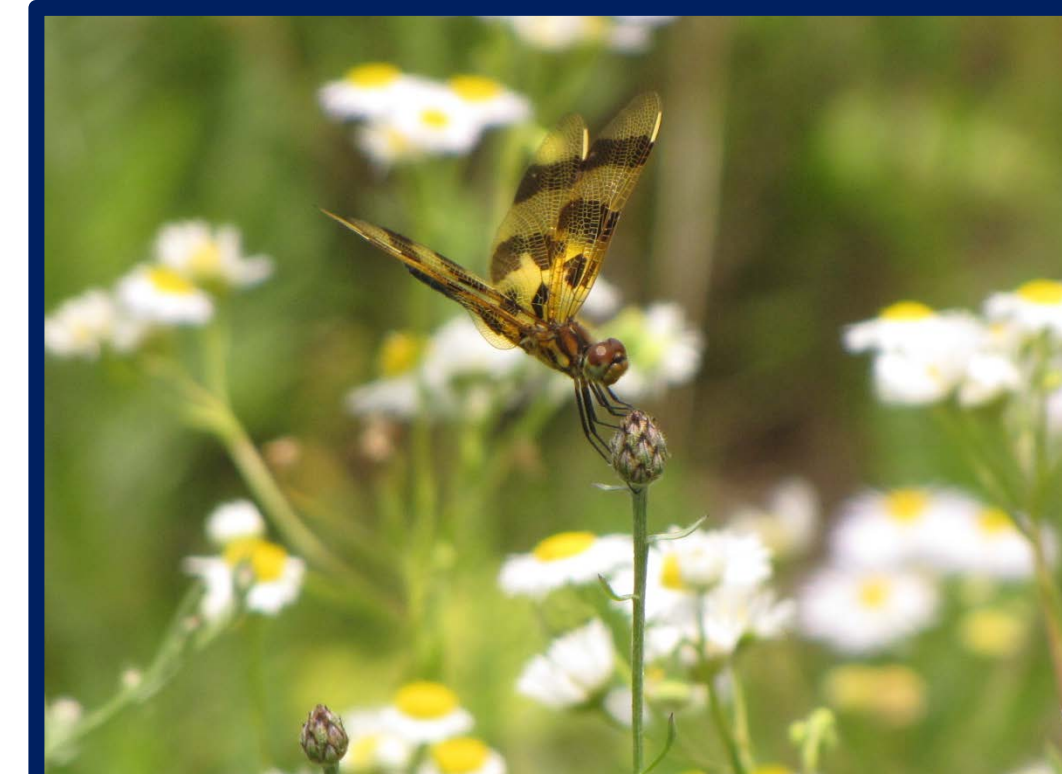


SKIMMERS

Four-spotted Skimmer (*Libellula quadrimaculata*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a mid-sized dragonfly, distinctive because of the coloration of its abdomen – the upper half is brown and the lower black – and the amber leading edge of its wings. It has a black patch at the back of its hind wing, and small black spots at the mid point of each wing.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We have seen only a few Four-spotted Skimmers, although it is not endangered. It can be found around ponds, swamps, and marshy streams.



SKIMMERS

Halloween Pennant (*Celithemis eponina*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a mid-small pennant, with distinctive yellow and black coloration and bands across its wings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Halloween Pennants regularly, mostly perched on tall vegetation in fields, but also around ponds.



SKIMMERS

Ruby Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum rubicundulum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a small bright red dragonfly, that is indistinguishable from other other meadowhawks in the field.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: This dragonfly is considered uncommon in New York. It can be seen around swamps, wet meadows, and wetlands.



SKIMMERS

Slaty Skimmer (*Libellula incesta*)

DESCRIPTION: This dragonfly is instantly recognizable because of its entirely purple-blue body and black eyes.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Slaty Skimmers occasionally, mostly around the edges of ponds and lakes.



Spangled Skimmer (*Libellula cyanea*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a medium sized dragonfly. The mails are almost entirely a dusty purple, while the females are black and yellow. It can be distinguished by the white stigmas on its wings.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Spangled Skimmers very rarely. It can be found around ponds and streams.



SKIMMERS

Twelve-spotted Skimmer (*Libellula pulchella*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a large, easily distinguishable dragonfly. The males of this species have a distinctive pattern of black and white spots on their wings. The females are similar, but without the white.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Twelve-spotted Skimmers quite often. They can be seen near bodies of water, or patrolling over fields.



SKIMMERS

Wandering Glider (*Pantala flavescens*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a large dragonfly. It is dull yellow-orange in color, and its wings have an orange stigma.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Wandering Gliders occasionally, but not in groups. They can most often be seen gliding over fields and in wide open areas. This is the only dragonfly species to be found on every continent (except for Antarctica).



SKIMMERS

White-faced Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum obstrusum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a typical bright red meadowhawk. Its white face is distinctive, but this is only present in mature males.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see these dragonflies occasionally. They can be found in swamps and wet vegetated areas, but they can also be seen perched or patrolling in fields.



SKIMMERS

Widow Skimmer (*Libellula luctuosa*)

DESCRIPTION: This small-medium sized dragonfly can be distinguished by the black patches at the base of its wings. In males these patches are followed by white. Both sexes have a relatively dark thorax, and the female has two yellow lines running down the sides of its abdomen.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Widow Skimmers very frequently. They can be found near ponds and lakes and in a wide variety of fields.



SKIMMERS

Yellow-legged Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum vicinum*)

DESCRIPTION: This is a typical red meadowhawk, but its lighter legs distinguish it from other similar species.

BEHAVIOUR/ABUNDANCE: We see Yellow-Legged Meadowhawks rarely. It can be found near still water, or foraging in fields.