

DRAGONFLIES (Suborder Anisoptera)



Regal Darner

DARNERS (Family Aeshnidae)

Swamp Darner (*Epiaeschna heros*) Feb-Oct
 Cyrano Darner (*Nasiaeschna pentacantha*) all year
 Twilight Darner (*Gynacantha nervosa*) all year
 Phantom Darner (*Triacanthagyna trifida*) Jul-Feb
 Blue-faced Darner (*Coryphaeschna adnexa*) all year
 Regal Darner (*Coryphaeschna ingens*) Jan-Oct
 Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*) all year



Gray-green Clubtail

CLUBTAILS (Family Gomphidae)

Two-Striped Forceptail (*Aphylla williamsoni*) Apr-Nov
 Gray-Green Clubtail (*Arigomphus pallidus*) Mar-Oct



Prince Baskettail, in Emerald Family

EMERALDS (Family Corduliidae)

Common Baskettail (*Epitheca cynosura*) Jan-May,
 Oct-Nov
 Florida Baskettail (*Epitheca stella*) Jan-Apr
 Sepia Baskettail (*Epitheca sepia*) Jan-Nov
 Prince Baskettail (*Epitheca princeps*) Mar-Dec



Four-spotted Pennant, a Skimmer

SKIMMERS (Family Libellulidae)

Bar-winged Skimmer (*Libellula axilena*) Mar-Oct
 Slaty Skimmer (*Libellula incesta*) Mar-Nov

Great Blue Skimmer (*Libellula vibrans*) Mar-Oct
 Golden-winged Sk. (*Libellula auripennis*) Feb-Nov
 Needham's Skimmer (*Libellula needhami*) Jan-Nov
 Roseate Skimmer (*Orthemis ferruginea*) all year
 Eastern Amberwing (*Perithemis tenera*) all year
 Four-Spotted Pennant (*Brachymesia gravida*) all year
 Halloween Pennant (*Celithemis eponina*) all year
 Scarlet Skimmer (*Crocothemis servilia*) all year
 Pin-tailed Pondhawk (*Erythemis plebeja*) all year
 Great Pondhawk (*Erythemis vesiculosa*) all year
 Eastern Pondhawk (*Erythemis simplicicollis*) all year
 Little Blue Dragonlet (*Erythrodiplax minuscula*) all year
 Band-winged Dragonlet (*E. umbrata*) all year
 Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*) all year
 Hyacinth Glider (*Miathyria marcella*) all year
 Striped Saddlebags (*Tramea calverti*) Jan-Oct
 Red Saddlebags (*Tramea oncosta*) Mar-Jan
 Carolina Saddlebags (*Tramea carolina*) all year
 Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*) Mar-Jan
 Wandering Glider (*Pantala flavescens*) all year
 Marl Pennant (*Macrodiplax balteata*) all year

DAMSELFLIES (Suborder Zygoptera)



Ebony Jewelwing, a Broad-winged Damselfly

BROAD-WINGED DAMSELFLIES (Family Calopterygidae)

Ebony Jewelwing (*Calopteryx maculata*) Feb-Dec
 Smoky Rubyspot (*Hetaerina titia*) all year



Rambur's Forktail, a Pond Damselfly

POND DAMSELFLIES (Family Coenagrionidae)

Familiar Bluet (*Enallagma civile*) all year
 Florida Bluet (*Enallagma pollutum*) all year
 Rambur's Forktail (*Ischnura ramburii*) all year
 Fragile Forktail (*Ischnura posita*) all year
 Citrine Forktail (*Ischnura hastata*) all year
 Duckweed Firetail (*Telebasis byersi*) Jan-Nov
 Variable Dancer (*Argia fumipennis*) all year
 Blue-ringed Dancer (*Argia sedula*) all year

Odonata Information Sources

Abbott, J.C. 2006-2022. OdonataCentral: An online resource for the distribution and identification of Odonata. www.odonatacentral.org (Accessed: 06/05/2022). Used as a source of documentation of species presence at OW.

iNaturalist. 2008-2022. A joint initiative of the California Academy of Sciences and the National Geographic Society. www.inaturalist.org/home (Accessed: 06/05/2022). Used as a source of documentation of species presence at OW.

Orange Audubon Society's Wildlife Survey Committee conducted a monthly dragonfly survey at the Wetlands in 2013 and 2014 that served as the basis for the first edition of this checklist.

Paulson, D. R. 2011. *Damselflies and Damselflies of the East*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N.J. Used as the source for dragonfly scientific names and common names for this checklist as well as the Florida flight seasons listed for each species.

General Information

Dragonflies and Damselflies are in the insect **Order Odonata** which means toothed, referring to the jagged mandible. Odonates have large eyes that provide a wide field of vision; four membranous, independently moving wings that provide maneuverability; and a long abdomen that stabilizes flight. They spend most of their lives as aquatic nymphs (also called larvae or naiads). Both nymphs and adults are carnivorous, sometimes eating prey as large as themselves.

Odonates are important in wetland food webs. They are often used as **indicators** to monitor wetland ecological health due to their range of pollution tolerance.

Dragonflies are in the **Suborder Anisoptera** which means "unequal wings". This refers to the hindwings being broader than the front wings. In addition, dragonflies are characterized by large eyes that touch or are separated by less than an eye's width; wings are held out to sides; immatures (nymphs) gills are internal.

Dragonflies at Orlando Wetlands vary in length from the inch-long Eastern Amberwing to the 3.5-inch Regal Darner. Several dragonflies, such as the Common Green Darner, are long-distance migrants. Those that fly north in the spring are the offspring of those that flew south in the fall.



Eastern Amberwing, a Skimmer Family Dragonfly

Damselflies are in the **Suborder Zygoptera** which means together "wings". That refers to their wings being held together over their backs. In addition, damselflies are characterized by eyes separated by more than an eye's width, and immatures (nymphs) have external gills.

Damselflies at the Orlando Wetlands vary in length from the inch-long Duckweed Firetail to the 2-inch Ebony Jewelwing.



Duckweed Firetail, a Pond Damselfly

Photos and species list compilation by
Orlando Wetlands volunteers
Mary Keim and Randy Snyder

See a new species?

Help the Wetlands keep this checklist up to date by sending additional sightings with documenting photos to orlandowetlandspark@orlando.gov

About the Orlando Wetlands

The Orlando Wetlands is open to the public for nature study and peaceful enjoyment. Recreational activities include walking, jogging, birdwatching, wildlife appreciation, nature photography and bicycling.

Directions: Drive 40 minutes east of downtown Orlando on SR 50 to Christmas, FL. Go north (left) 2.3 miles on Ft. Christmas Road (CR 420), and 1.5 miles east (right) on Wheeler Road. Parking area will be on your left.

Hours: Sunrise until sunset, seven days a week; Closed Mondays starting 10/2/23. Year round.

Free Admission

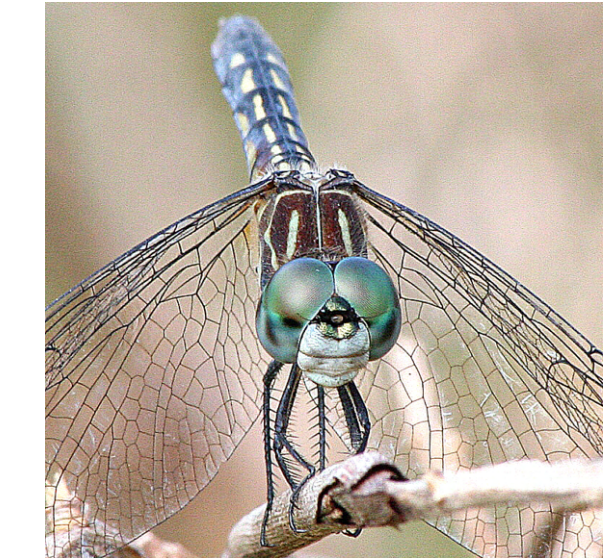


Orlando Wetlands
25155 Wheeler Road, Christmas, FL 32709
407.568.1706, orlando.gov/wetlands

Revised June 2022

Orlando Wetlands

Field Checklist of Dragonflies and Damselflies



Blue Dasher, a Skimmer

