

The Ohio Dragon-Flyer

Newsletter of the Ohio Odonata Society

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Seeing - what a difference a few days make. Snow is almost gone, maple buds are swelling, skies are a soft blue, Skunk Cabbage is in bloom, salamanders are on the move, spring birds are arriving.

Spring is coming. Hope springs eternal if you can find a moment to look...

In contrast, I am reminded of the concerns with significant declines in our natural world. Bird data is substantial and provides a resource for analysis of declines. Dragonfly data is quite limited compared to the bird data. Hence the need for ongoing survey, and the value of all of us to find a moment to look and make observations.

Help wanted!

Help with Citizen Science: Career Exploration camp at Spruce Run in Galena, Ohio

Students will work side by side with different nature-based professionals, collecting data and adding to our Spruce Run Biodiversity catalog. We are doing a two-week BIOBLITZ and each day the students will be working with a different scientist/naturalist.

June 28- July 8, 8:00am - 12:30

Limit 15 students

Please contact Geri Granger if you are willing to help at ggranger9556@columbus.k12.oh.us



Current OOS Board -

President - MaLisa Spring, spring.99@osu.edu

Vice-President - Kyle Bailey,
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Member-at-Large – Dave McShaffrey,
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Treasurer - Bob Restifo, rarestifo@yahoo.com

Final Call - Small Grants

One more time for this year - Ohio Odonata Society has partnered with Ohio Biological Survey in supporting work on Dragonflies and Damselflies in Ohio.

The submission deadline was extended to March 15. Link to OBS and application information at:

<http://www.ohiobiologicalsurvey.org/>

Odds and Ends

Entomology News - I subscribe to *the Entomology News* – it's free! While they cover a wide range of entomological topics, some are related to Odonata. You can see examples and subscribe at <https://entomologytoday.org/>

Dragonfly Society of the Americas - Many of you are aware of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas (DSA). If not, have a look at the website at <https://www.dragonflysocietymerica.org/>

Odonata Central - Related to DSA is Odonata Central (OC). Like iNaturalist, you can submit Odonata records. And you can import iNaturalist observations directly. The OC link is <https://www.odonatacentral.org/#/>

Migratory Dragonfly Partnership - Another web site I connect with is the Migratory Dragonfly Partnership. This can be found at <http://www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org/index/welcome>

They have good information and their own newsletter.

The 17-year Periodical Cicadas Are Coming!

Brood X will be making an appearance in Ohio this spring. What's up with that?

There will be potentially thousands of *Magicicada* emerging *per acre* starting in May. Insectivorous animals will have a tremendous food supply in areas where the cicadas emerge. This can potentially mean less predation pressure on dragonflies. Check out a cicada-related report from the 2004 emergence (see page 11): [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bf443d3f8370a0c796d6447/t/5d72c0b37c99e31e59fd634f/1567801526407/Argia 2004 16 3.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5bf443d3f8370a0c796d6447/t/5d72c0b37c99e31e59fd634f/1567801526407/Argia+2004+16+3.pdf)

Thanks, Sarah, for alerting me to this article in *Argia*.

You might also want to help with cicada data using the *Cicada Safari* app. Look for it in the appropriate App Stores.

Hey Miss Dragonfly – this is fun, thanks Kim for the link to Ziggy: <https://youtu.be/ZEHTt8ZrWGs>

“Hey Miss Dragonfly I see you look at me with your beautiful eyes
You must be wondering what type of creature am I”
~ *Dragonfly*, by Ziggy Marley

State Listed Species

We have 21 Dragon and Damselfly species that are state-listed - meaning they have been determined to be Endangered, Threatened, or considered to be a Species-of-Concern.

For the years 2016 through 2020 we have Research Grade observations in iNaturalist for 152 species. If we look further back in time in iNaturalist, we pick up a couple more Research Grade species to get to 154. Historically, we have data for 172 species. This means we have historical records for species not seen in the survey. Some of the unreported species are “listed,” but there are others as well. Some of the missing species are northern (Canada and Mottled Darners, Boreal and Taiga Bluets), the two species seeing new county records are southern (Blue Corporal, Lilypad Forktail).

So how are we doing? Let's take a look at our listed species, as well as those we haven't seen reported in a while.

Endangered

American Emerald, *Cordulia shurtleffi*

14 records total, representing 2 Counties. First recorded in Geauga Co, 1960.

5 survey records from 2018, 2019, all in Portage Co.

Blue Corporal, *Ladona deplanata*

249 records total, now appearing in 31 Counties. First recorded in Warren Co, 1992.

195 survey records, 27 Co's: Adams, Athens, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton*, Fairfield, Franklin*, Gallia*, Greene*, Guernsey*, Hamilton, Highland, Hocking, Jackson*, Meigs*, Miami, Montgomery*, Morgan*, Muskingum*, Perry, Pickaway*, Pike*, Preble*, Scioto, Vinton, Warren.

13 new Co Recs (*). Range expansion into S Ohio.

Brush-tipped Emerald, *Somatochlora walshii*

13 records total in four 4 NE Counties, first recorded Portage Co, 2000.

2 survey records (1 individual), 2020 in Summit Co.

Canada Darner, *Aeshna canadensis*

41 records, recorded in 5 NW Counties. First complete record, Williams Co, 1950.

0 survey records, last seen 1997 NW Co's.

Chalk-fronted Corporal, *Ladona julia*

51 records total, in 5 N Counties. First recorded Portage Co, 1898.

3 survey records, 2018 Summit Co, 2019, 2020 Lucas Co.

Elfin Skimmer, *Nannothemis bella*

285 records total, 3 Counties. First recorded Champaign Co, 1930.

200 survey records, 2 in Summit Co 2019, 198 in Champaign Co (Cedar Bog).

Frosted Whiteface, *Leucorrhinia frigida*

32 records total, 3 N Counties. First recorded Geauga Co, 1923.

11 survey records, 5 Lucas Co in 2017 and 2020, 6 Portage Co 2017-2019.

Hine's Emerald, *Somatochlora hineana* (State and Federally listed)

24 records total, 3 historical Counties, first recorded Logan Co, 1929.

0 survey records, last seen 1961 in Lucas Co.

Mottled Darner, *Aeshna clepsydra*

31 total records in 3 N Counties. First complete record, Williams Co, 1948.

0 survey records, last seen 2015, Lucas Co.

Plains Clubtail, *Gomphus externus*

97 records total, 17 Counties. First recorded Paulding Co, 1947.

44 survey records, 37 Stark Co 2016, 2017, 2020, 1 Montgomery Co 2017, 1 Hamilton Co 2017, 5 Tuscarawas Co 2020.

Racket-tailed Emerald, *Dorocordulia libera*

51 records total, 6 Counties. First recorded Geauga Co, 1924.

26 survey records, 5 Ashtabula Co, 11 Geauga Co, 1 Portage Co, 9 Summit Co.

Uhler's Sundragon, *Helocordulia uhleri*

39 records total, 8 Counties. First recorded Hocking Co, 1954.

10 survey records, 2 Adams Co, 1 Athens Co, 4 Hocking Co, 3 Scioto Co.

Yellow-sided Skimmer, *Libellula flavida*

37 records total, 2 Counties. First recorded Pike Co, 1998.

25 survey records, Pike Co in 2019 and 2020.

Lilypad Forktail, *Ischnura kellicotti*

341 records total, now in 18 Counties. First recorded Williams Co, 1992.

322 survey records, 17 Co's: Athens*, Champaign*, Fairfield*, Geauga, Hocking, Knox*, Lake*, Logan, Medina*, Morgan*, Portage, Richland*, Scioto*, Stark, Summit, Vinton*, Warren*. Apparent range expansion.

11 new Co Recs (*) in the survey.

98 of the survey observations were at Kiser Lake which has emerged as a reliable population. The east end of the lake, representing approximately 10 acres of lilypads, was dredged in Autumn 2020. A reliable population at Spring Valley Lake has not been reported since the lake was sprayed to control the lilypads.

River Jewelwing, *Calopteryx aequabilis*

48 records total, 6 Counties. First complete record Portage Co, 1900.

17 survey records, Geauga Co, 2016-2020.

Previous locations in Portage (1900) and Williams (1951) Co's have not been reconfirmed.

Seepage Dancer, *Argia bipunctulata*

527 records total, in 6 Counties. First recorded Champaign Co, 1930.

365 survey records, Champaign, Clark, Greene, Montgomery, Pike, Stark Co's.

313 of the survey records were at Cedar Bog, which retains a reliable population that is boardwalk accessible.

Threatened

Green-faced Clubtail, *Gomphus viridifrons*

35 records total, 10 Counties. First recorded Ashland Co, 1899.

6 survey records, Lake Co, 2016, 2017, 2020

Other populations may still persist - we need people looking in Adams (2015), Washington (2011), Ashtabula (2009), Licking (2000), Ashland (1982).

Harlequin Darner, *Gomphaeschna furcillata*

55 total records, 5 Counties. First recorded Hocking Co, 1936.

27 survey records, Summit (3), Portage (2), Ashtabula (3), Geauga (21) Co's. 2020 was a particularly good year at Lake Kelso.

Riffle Snaketail, *Ophiogomphus carolus*

33 records total, 5 Counties. First recorded Jefferson County, 1965.

15 survey records, all in Lake Co, Hell Hollow SNP.

Boreal Bluet, *Enallagma boreale*

41 records total, 8 Counties. First recorded Erie Co, 1926.

0 survey records, last seen 1995, Summit Co.

Marsh Bluet, *Enallagma ebrium*

64 records total, 22 Counties. First recorded Erie Co, 1899.

5 survey records, Williams Co (4) 2018, 2019, Trumbull Co (1) 2019.

Northern Bluet, *Enallagma cyathigerum*

50 records total, 7 Counties. First recorded Williams Co, 1949.

6 survey records, Portage Co (3), 2017-2019, Ashtabula Co (3) 2018.

Species of Concern

Tiger Spiketail, *Cordulegaster erronea*

97 records total, 22 Counties. First recorded Fairfield Co, 1891.

13 survey records, Adams (1), Fairfield (1), Hocking (2), Lake (1), Lawrence (1), Logan (5), Scioto (1), Summit (1).

Other Species NOT Observed during survey

Northern Pygmy Clubtail, *Lanthus parvulus*

15 records total, 12 Counties. First recorded Stark Co, 1934.

0 survey records, last seen 2004, Geauga Co.

Allegheny River Cruiser, *Macromia alleghaniensis*

18 records total, 10 Counties. First complete record Franklin Co, 1991.

0 survey records, last seen 2011, Pike Co.

Wabash River Cruiser, *Macromia wabashensis*

25 records total, 10 Counties. First recorded Paulding Co, 1950.

0 survey records, last seen 2012, Lucas Co.

This is likely what we're now calling *Macromia Hybrid*, *Macromia pacifica* × *taeniolata*.

Saffron-winged Meadowhawk, *Sympetrum costiferum*

19 records total, 6 Counties. First complete record Paulding Co, 1949.

0 survey records, last seen 1957, Knox Co.

Cherry-faced Meadowhawk, *Sympetrum internum*

11 records total, 6 Counties. First recorded Scioto Co, 1897.

0 survey records, last seen 1998, Portage Co.

Umber Shadowdragon, *Neurocordulia obsoleta*

11 records, 6 Counties. First recorded Hamilton Co, 1899.

0 survey records, last seen 1994, Hamilton Co.

Plains Emerald, *Somatochlora ensigera*

18 records total, 4 Counties. First recorded Paulding Co, 1943.

0 survey records, last seen 1993, Defiance Co.

Taiga Bluet, *Coenagrion resolutum*

4 records total, 4 Counties. First recorded Paulding Co, 1945.

0 survey records, last seen 1993, Geauga and Greene Co's.

Taper-tailed Darner, *Gomphaeschna antilope*

3 records total, 3 Counties. First complete record Fairfield Co, 1937.

0 survey records, last seen 1960, Cuyahoga Co.

Appalachian Jewelwing, *Calopteryx angustipennis*

4 records total, 1 County. First recorded Ashland Co, 1899.

0 survey records, last seen 1900, Ashland Co.

Atlantic Bluet, *Enallagma doubledayi*

Only 1 record, Franklin Co, 1897.

Spine-crowned Clubtail, *Hylogomphus abbreviatus*

3 records, Ashland Co, 1937.

Variable Darner, *Aeshna interrupta*

Only 1 record, Williams Co, 1951.

Georgia River Cruiser, *Macromia i. georgina*

3 records, Paulding Co, 1956.

Kennedy's Emerald, *Somatochlora kennedyi*

Only 1 record, Erie Co, 1955.

Incurvate Emerald, *Somatochlora incurvata*

Only 1 record, Athens Co, 1996.

These lone-cowboys (single record species) may have been vagrant, some of the other low numbers may be related to unique meteorological events.

The 154 species recorded in iNaturalist may be getting close to what we have. New species are possible with special weather. New resident populations will likely be from the south and west.



Spring is coming – Stay Safe

After February's snow and cold, the world is waking up, hopefully me too.

I can hardly wait to get out to our wetlands – and see some of you in the field as we make our rounds.

I'm reminded of one of Arlo Guthrie's old storylines - (paraphrasing from memory) "... in a perfect world you'd have to work pretty hard to make a contribution, but given the one we're in... there's never been a time when doing so little can contribute so much..." – maybe just taking a look around, seeing a dragonfly eye-to-eye, and sharing what you see. It could turn out to be something that hasn't been seen in a while.