

# The Ohio Dragon-Flyer

## Newsletter of the Ohio Odonata Society

June 2021, Volume 30: Number 6

Suddenly it's June. And time to be in the field - rather than reading (or writing) a newsletter. Warmer days and not too much precipitation have the stage set for good Dragon-watching.

June is our month of greatest Odonata diversity. The high season for Dragons is Memorial Day to Labor Day. But we have more species recorded in June than any other month, even though July and August have as many or more observations and observers.

In looking at the OOS database, our highest ration of species per observer is the 10 days starting June 10. That's still catching the end of Clubtails, while peaking Spiketails, and getting into the majority of the Skimmers.

So, basically - Don't delay getting out. There are lots flying and the mosquitoes haven't been too bad.

## Extra, Extra - read all about it!

There is news. The annual OOS meeting is being pushed back for another year. This isn't our goal, but CoVid is still around, and we need to be safe for everyone.

This from OOS President Malisa:

### **Annual meeting postponed yet again:**

The Ohio Odonata Society has decided to hold off on the annual conference until 2022 due to the ongoing pandemic. We hope by next year we can all get together safely. In the meantime, keep an eye out



for smaller scale events across the state with dragonfly themes. You can also continue to upload photo observations to iNaturalist.org to be added to the Ohio Odonata Society Database.

### **Current OOS Board -**

*President* - Malisa Spring, [spring.99@osu.edu](mailto:spring.99@osu.edu)

*Vice-President* - Kyle Bailey,  
[kbailey@richlandcountyoh.us](mailto:kbailey@richlandcountyoh.us)

*Past-President* - Shane Myers,  
[srmyers429@gmail.com](mailto:srmyers429@gmail.com)

*Member-at-Large* – Dave McShaffrey,  
[mcscaffd@marietta.edu](mailto:mcscaffd@marietta.edu)

*Treasurer* - Bob Restifo, [rarestifo@yahoo.com](mailto:rarestifo@yahoo.com)

## Odolympics

The Odolympics are underway! See details on Odonata Central at:

<https://www.odonatacentral.org/#/>

## Virtual Dragoning *(ok, I made up a word)*

### Dragonfly Society of the Americas -

The Dragonfly Society of the Americas is promoting a Virtual Lecture Series. The first speaker was Dennis Paulson. The recorded video of his talk is on YouTube channel with closed captioning in English and Spanish:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7QD6eTPGmU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7QD6eTPGmU)

Entertaining and educational!

Another virtual program is coming in July, this from Kim Smith:

### Oodles of Odes: Introduction to the Dragonflies of NW Ohio

A Zoom program on July 14 at 7:00 pm

You've certainly noticed dragonflies before, but what do you really know about these fascinating insects who have been here for 250 million years? Kim Smith will introduce you to the lives of these beautiful and ferocious predators of water and air, and teach you secrets to help you find and identify them.

Sign up at  
<https://www.friendsofottawanwr.org/seek-refuge-days.html>

### A real live event:

June 19th - Licking County Parks Bioblitz - a dragonfly walk led by MaLisa Spring. Register here:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/4622035604491199/?ti=ls>

If other OOS members are planning outings and want promotion, please let me know.

## Help wanted!

We're still looking for a new Secretary/Treasurer. As described before, this is an important function for our Society. If you have any interest, please let us know. We promise not to bug you just because you ask a question.

## The season so far

Overall, we're doing pretty well. So far on the year, we have 2,326 research grade (RG) observation submitted to iNaturalist. This represents 82 species, from 232 observers. Good, and compares favorably to previous years of the Dragonfly Survey project.

The top reported species so far are Fragile Forktail, Common Whitetail, Eastern Forktail, and Common Green Darner. Eastern Pondhawk and Blue Dasher are catching up quickly, they have been our most commonly reported species for a number of years.

Nice finds so far: Beaverpond and Slender Baskettails, Twin-spotted and Tiger Spiketails, Stream Cruisers, Lilypad Forktails, and Northern Bluets.

Seepage Dancer, Elfin Skimmer, Southern Pygmy Clubtails, Harlequin Darners, and River Jewelwing are being reported at their normal (limited) locations.

Following are statistics by county. Note that we have some hot spots and a number of gaps (zero or low count counties).

County	Observations	Species	Observers
Adams	23	10	7
Allen	1	1	1

Ashland	0	0	0
Ashtabula	146	21	8
Athens	2	2	1
Auglaize	7	4	2
Belmont	0	0	0
Brown	1	1	1
Butler	68	15	16
Carroll	2	2	1
Champaign	133	30	7
Clark	63	17	5
Clermont	82	22	15
Clinton	1	1	1
Columbiana	6	2	1
Coshocton	111	17	3
Crawford	14	10	2
Cuyahoga	46	13	15
Darke	26	13	2
Defiance	2	2	2
Delaware	33	11	7
Erie	3	2	1
Fairfield	8	6	3
Fayette	24	14	1
Franklin	113	20	20
Fulton	0	0	0
Gallia	0	0	0
Geauga	147	33	14
Greene	92	22	13
Guernsey	9	7	1
Hamilton	92	28	26
Hancock	11	11	3
Hardin	0	0	0
Harrison	0	0	0
Henry	0	0	0
Highland	0	0	0
Hocking	6	5	2
Holmes	9	5	2
Huron	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0
Jefferson	0	0	0
Knox	0	0	0
Lake	140	29	14
Lawrence	0	0	0
Licking	37	13	4

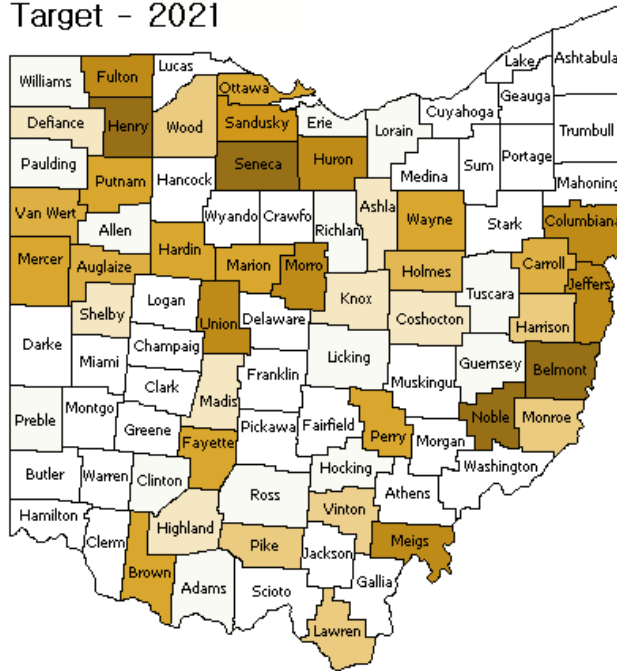
Logan	42	21	1
Lorain	115	26	11
Lucas	98	30	13
Madison	3	3	1
Mahoning	5	2	5
Marion	1	1	1
Medina	8	6	4
Meigs	0	0	0
Mercer	0	0	0
Miami	35	18	3
Monroe	1	1	1
Montgomery	176	41	17
Morgan	3	3	1
Morrow	1	1	1
Muskingum	1	1	1
Noble	0	0	0
Ottawa	13	8	5
Paulding	0	0	0
Perry	16	7	2
Pickaway	2	2	2
Pike	0	0	0
Portage	32	17	9
Preble	18	13	3
Putnam	0	0	0
Richland	4	4	1
Ross	2	2	2
Sandusky	3	1	1
Scioto	9	3	5
Seneca	0	0	0
Shelby	34	16	1
Stark	39	18	8
Summit	66	21	23
Trumbull	13	8	1
Tuscarawas	4	4	1
Union	11	7	3
Van Wert	0	0	0
Vinton	0	0	0
Warren	31	17	4
Washington	39	18	1
Wayne	4	4	4
Williams	0	0	0
Wood	17	5	3
Wyandot	1	1	1

I'll save you the search, Montgomery Co had the most observations and the most species. These numbers run hand-in-hand.

Exactly half the counties have 5 or fewer observations. 23 (roughly half the half) have zero records so far in 2021. These locales need a little help.

As a reminder, here's the map from last winter prioritizing target counties. The darker the color, the higher the priority. Note that the darkest 4 – Henry, Seneca, Noble, Belmont – all have 0 data...

Ohio Dragonfly Survey  
Target - 2021



Now the species numbers. These change quite a bit through the season, especially as we add Skimmers.

Species	#
Fragile Forktail	333
Common Whitetail	258
Eastern Forktail	237
Common Green Darner	146
Eastern Pondhawk	82
Dot-tailed Whiteface	69

Blue Dasher	64
Ebony Jewelwing	62
Lancet Clubtail	51
Midland Clubtail	50
Double-striped Bluet	48
Orange Bluet	45
Twelve-spotted Skimmer	44
Painted Skimmer	44
Eastern Red Damsel	39
Ashy Clubtail	35
Carolina Saddlebags	34
Azure Bluet	34
Blue Corporal	28
Unicorn Clubtail	27
Skimming Bluet	26
Familiar Bluet	25
Calico Pennant	24
Cobra Clubtail	24
Aurora Damsel	23
Stream Bluet	22
Black Saddlebags	19
Springtime Darner	19
Turquoise Bluet	19
Common Baskettail	19
Swamp Darner	18
Spangled Skimmer	18
Pronghorn Clubtail	18
Amber-winged Spreadwing	17
Vesper Bluet	16
Widow Skimmer	15
Variable Dancer	14
Prince Baskettail	14
Southern Pygmy Clubtail	14
Brown Spiketail	13
Slender Spreadwing	12
Arrowhead Clubtail	11
Lilypad Clubtail	10
Delta-spotted Spiketail	10
Spatterdock Darner	10
Southern Spreadwing	9
Elfin Skimmer	9
Harlequin Darner	8
Rapids Clubtail	8

American Rubyspot	7
Blue-tipped Dancer	7
Seepage Dancer	6
Powdered Dancer	6
Elegant Spreadwing	6
Swamp Spreadwing	6
Slaty Skimmer	6
Handsome Clubtail	6
Comet Darner	5
River Jewelwing	5
Lilypad Forktail	5
Gray Petaltail	5
Eastern Amberwing	4
Stream Cruiser	4
Northern Bluet	4
Rainbow Bluet	4
Citrine Forktail	4
Emerald Spreadwing	4
Sedge Sprite	4
Dusky Clubtail	4
Twin-spotted Spiketail	3
Beaverpond Baskettail	3
Slender Baskettail	3
Paiute Dancer	2
Tule Bluet	2
Slender Bluet	2
Swift River Cruiser	2
Cyrano Darner	2
Sphagnum Sprite	2
Spot-winged Glider	1
Tiger Spiketail	1
Blue-ringed Dancer	1
Sweetflag Spreadwing	1

## We're still counting

As previously noted, the Ohio Dragonfly Survey Project is still in place on iNaturalist. Observations are rolling in. We will soon pass 100,000 records in iNat, *maybe by the time you read this*. Your efforts are appreciated and contribute to our data and knowledge. Thank you.

I'm also saying thank you to Sally Isacco for her time and expertise in doing iNat IDs (and correcting me on occasion. Sally's count on IDs just passed 40,000. Well done Sally.

With a little space left, I'll end with a photo from last week. Handsome Clubtail, *Gophurus crassus*, on the Great Miami River at Farrington Reserve, May 30, 2021. Immature female.

