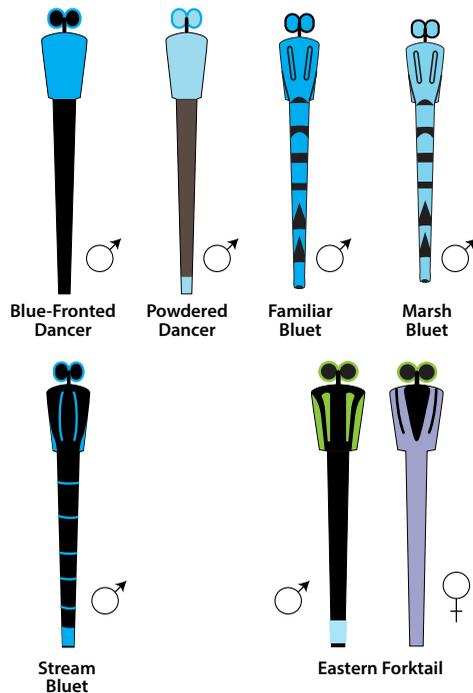


Damselflies (Order Odonata, Suborder Zygoptera)

Damselfly Fly-By ID



Blue-Fronted Dancer (*Argia apicalis*)
Small species, found in a variety of still and flowing habitats.

Males: Primarily blue-black. Abdominal segments 8-10 blue. Thorax primarily blue with thin black stripes. Can take on blue-green form.

Females: Brown-olive in color. Abdomen primarily black with narrow pale dorsal stripe. Abdominal segment 9 black with tan stripes on sides and top. Can take multiple color forms.



Powdered Dancer (*Argia moesta*)
Similar to *A. apicalis*. Usually found near flowing water.

Males: Powdery-white thorax and tip of abdomen. Thick black shoulder stripe on thorax.

Females: Pale brown thorax, no distinct stripes. Abdomen black with wide, pale top stripe. Can take multiple color forms.



Familiar Bluet (*Enallagma civile*)
Small species, one of the most commonly observed.

Males: Primarily light-blue in color. Blue stripe on thorax. Abdomen has dorsal black spots on segments 3-5. Blue, tear-drop shaped spots behind each eye. Cerci are triangular in shape.

Females: Similar in all aspects to males, but are olive or light-brown in color.



Marsh Bluet (*Enallagma ebrium*)
Almost identical to *E. civile*, though generally slightly smaller.

Males: Almost indistinguishable from *E. civile* males. Sometimes slightly more black coloration on abdomen, but not reliably. Differentiated by shape of cerci.

Females: Similar to *E. civile* females, but are light-green, not olive, in color.



Stream Bluet (*Enallagma exsulans*)
Most common Bluet found near streams.

Males: Narrow eye-spots behind eyes, narrow stripes on thorax. Only segment 9 of abdomen is completely blue, other segments are dorsally black and ventrally blue.

Females: Pale-green thorax and abdomen, with segments 10 blue and 9 mostly blue.



American Rubyspot (*Hetaerina americana*)
Large species often found perched near slow moving streams.

Males: Distinctive dark-red spot on base of each wing. Thorax has metallic red stripe pattern.

Females: Light-red spot near base of wings, less deeply colored than males. Thorax has similar stripe pattern as males but is dull brown as opposed to metallic red.



Eastern Forktail (*Ischnura verticalis*)
Extremely common throughout North America at both still and flowing water. Both males and females take on multiple color forms.

Males: Green thorax with thick black lateral stripe. Abdomen mostly black, final segments blue with lateral black spots.

Females: Can be similar in color to males though with more blue on final abdominal segments. Immature females can be orange, mature females can be mostly grey with no blue.



Ebony Jewelwing (*Calopteryx maculata*)
Large species often found near streams, distinctive due to black wings.

Males: Bodies are metallic blue-green, with all black wings.

Females: Bodies are powdery blue-black, with all black wings. Slightly less deeply colored wings than males.

Common Dragonfly and Damselfly Species of DuPage County

Quick ID Guide



Dragonflies (Order Odonata, Suborder Anisoptera)



Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*)
Largest IL species, common all season. Often first and last species observed during the season. No wing markings.

Males:All-green thorax, light blue abdomen.

Females:All- green thorax, dull light-brown abdomen. Similar size to males.

Black Saddlebags (*Tramea lacerata*)
Large, common all season (May-September). Slightly smaller than *A. junius*.

Males: Black thorax and abdomen. Large, black 'saddlebag' patches at the base of each hind wing.

Females: Black thorax and abdomen, with dorsal yellow spots on abdomen. Similar wing markings as male.

Twelve-Spotted Skimmer (*Libellula pulchella*)
Medium sized dragonfly, very common near ponds and lakes.

Males: Distinctive alternating black (3) and white (2) patches on all four wings. Each wing has a black tip. Abdomen may appear powdery white or very light blue.

Females: Similar wing pattern as males, with black tips, but lacking white patches. Abdomen has lateral yellow stripes.

Halloween Pennant (*Celithemis eponina*)
Medium-sized species, commonly perched near ponds and lakes.

Males: Amber colored wings with brown-rust colored bands on each wing. Body is a similar brown-rust color.

Females: Similar wing markings as males, but wings are less deeply colored, sometimes yellow. Bodies also show less and lighter coloration than the males.

Eastern Amberwing (*Perithemis tenera*)
Very small species, commonly seen hovering over water at ponds. Distinctive due to their small size.

Males:All wings are solid amber color. Bodies are generally dull brown or rust colored.

Females: Wings have brown-amber colored marks as opposed to the solid color seen with males. Bodies are a similar brown color as seen in males.



Blue Dasher (*Pachydiplax longipennis*)
Small sized dragonfly, commonly perched near ponds and lakes. No wing markings.

Males: Powdery blue abdomen, thorax is black with light-green lateral stripes.

Females: Dull-brown to light-green abdomen, thorax has light-green lateral stripes.

Eastern Pondhawk (*Erythemis simplicicollis*)
Small-medium sized dragonfly, commonly perched near ponds and lakes. No wing markings.

Males: Powdery blue thorax and abdomen, green face.

Females: Bright-green thorax and abdomen with dorsal black stripes on abdomen.

Calico Pennant (*Celithemis elisa*)
Medium-small species. Commonly perched near ponds and lakes.

Males:All wings have black tips, small black spots, and large basal red-black patches on the hind wings. Bodies red-black, with dorsal red triangles on the abdomen.

Females: Similar in all aspects to males, but with yellow coloring replacing red.

Widow Skimmer (*Libellula luctuosa*)
Medium sized dragonfly, very common near ponds and lakes.

Males: Each wing has large basal black patch and distal white patch. Abdomen appears powdery blue.

Females: Same large basal black patches as males, lacking (or nearly so) white on wings. Abdomen dark with lateral yellow stripes.

Common Whitetail (*Libellula lydia*)
Medium sized dragonfly, very common near ponds and lakes.

Males: Distinctive powdery-white abdomen. Single medial black patch on each wing.

Females: Abdomen has white-yellow lateral 'triangle' patches. Black tips and patches on each wing, no white.