

Dragonflies/Damselflies of Spring Creek Prairie

(35 species – updated August 2010)

Dragonflies

Darners

(Includes large dragonflies, carrying long and slender abdomens. Most are brown or black, striped and spotted with blue, green, or yellow.)

Common green darner	<i>Anax junius</i>
Lance-tipped darner	<i>Ashnea constricta</i>

Common Skimmers

(Common at still waters, these include the most showy of the dragonflies, many with conspicuous wing patterns. Most perch and cling horizontally to tips of stems.)

Halloween pennant	<i>Celithemis eponina</i>
Eastern pondhawk	<i>Erythemis simplicicollis</i>
Widow skimmer	<i>Libellula luctuosa</i>
Twelve-spotted skimmer	<i>Libellula pulchella</i>
Blue dasher	<i>Pachydiplax longipennis</i>
Wandering glider	<i>Pantala flavescens</i>
Spot-winged glider	<i>Pantala hymenaea</i>
Eastern amberwing	<i>Perithemis tenera</i>
Common whitetail	<i>Plathemis lydia</i>
Variegated meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum corruptum</i>
Western meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum occidentalis</i>
Cherry-faced meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum internum</i>
Autumn meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum vicinum</i>
Black saddlebags	<i>Tramea lacerata</i>
Red saddlebags	<i>Tramea onusta</i>

Emeralds

(Most are brown, but some have green or bronze iridescence on the body. Except for baskettails, most are secretive and difficult to find.)

Common baskettail	<i>Epiptera cynosura</i>
Prince baskettail	<i>Epiptera princeps</i>

Clubtails

(Named for distinctive large, club-like end of tail. Often colored in camouflage pattern. Most are uncommon, wary, and difficult to find.)

Jade clubtail	<i>Arigomphus submedianus</i>
Sulphur-tipped clubtail	<i>Gomphus militaris</i>
Plains clubtail	<i>Gomphus externus</i>

Damselflies

Broad-winged Damsels

(The long, broad wings are not narrowly constricted at the base. These are large, showy insects, often seen along streams and rivers.)

Ebony jewelwing	<i>Calopteryx maculata</i>
American rubyspot	<i>Hetaerina americana</i>

Pond Damsels

(Small damselflies that hold their wings folded back over the abdomen. Very challenging to identify.)

Red damsel	<i>Amphiagrion</i> spp.
Paiute dancer	<i>Argia alberta</i>
Blue-fronted dancer	<i>Argia apicalis</i>
Springwater dancer	<i>Argia plana</i>
Vivid dancer	<i>Argia vivida</i>
Azure bluet	<i>Enallagma aspersum</i>
Familiar bluet	<i>Enallagma civile</i>
Orange bluet	<i>Enallagma signatum</i>
Rainbow bluet	<i>Enallagma antennatum</i>
Skimming bluet	<i>Enallagma geminatum</i>
Eastern forktail	<i>Ischnura verticalis</i>