

## ODONATA CHECKLIST FOR THE LESLIE STREET SPIT (46 species as of March 2023)

### Damselflies

#### *Jewelwings*

- Ebony Jewelwing—*Calopteryx maculata* (Rare on The Spit, but abundant in the ravine systems just to the north. One adult male photographed by O. Strickland, September 20, 2022.)

#### *Spreadwings*

- Spotted Spreadwing—*Lestes congener* (Fairly common late-season resident)
- Lyre-tipped Spreadwing—*Lestes unguiculatus* (Rare late-season migrant. Adult specimens recorded by Bob Yukich in the Baselands on September 7 and 30, 2002.)
- Slender Spreadwing—*Lestes rectangularis* (Common resident)
- Emerald Spreadwing—*Lestes dryade* (Uncommon resident)

#### *Pond Damselfs*

- Familiar Bluet—*Enallagma civile* (Very common resident)
- Tule Bluet—*Enallagma carunculatum* (Uncommon resident)
- Skimming Bluet—*Enallagma geminatum* (Common resident. Often seen along the shore of Cell 1.)
- Azure Bluet—*Enallagma aspersum* (Uncommon resident)
- Orange Bluet—*Enallagma signatum* (Common resident, especially along the shore of Cell 1 and Cell 2.)
- Vesper Bluet—*Enallagma vesperum* (Fairly common resident)
- Eastern Forktail—*Ischnura verticalis* (Very common resident throughout)
- Fragile Forktail—*Ischnura posita* (Fairly common resident)
- Sedge Sprite—*Nehalennia irene* (Fairly common resident)
- Blue-fronted Dancer—*Argia apicalis* (Rare migrant. One adult male recorded by Bob Yukich at Peninsula B on August 25, 2002.)

### Dragonflies

#### *Darners*

- Swamp Darner—*Epiaeschna heros* (Fairly common spring migrant)
- Black-tipped Darner—*Aeshna tuberculifera* (Uncommon resident)

- Green-striped Darner—*Aeshna verticalis* (Rare migrant. First recorded on September 13, 2021, when a single specimen was photographed near the base of Peninsula A. There is a second photo record from September 23, 2022, by the base of Peninsula B.)
- Canada Darner—*Aeshna canadensis* (Uncommon migrant. One adult photographed on August 23, 2022 by D. Johnston.)
- Lance-tipped Darner—*Aeshna constricta* (Common resident throughout)
- Shadow Darner—*Aeshna umbrosa* (Common resident. Often seen hanging from the shrubs that border the path to Peninsula B.)
- Common Green Darner—*Anax junius* (Very common resident and abundant migrant in the fall, when thousands congregate along the entire length of The Spit.)

### ***Emeralds***

- Baskettail sp.—*Epitheca* sp. (A single specimen photographed on June 23, 2022. Impossible to identify to species from the photograph, but may have been either a Common or Beaverpond Baskettail. Good habitat for these species exists on the Spit, so sightings may increase in the future.)

### ***Skimmers***

- Common Whitetail—*Plathemis lydia* (Common resident)
- Four-spotted Skimmer—*Libellula quadrimaculata* (Fairly common spring migrant)
- Painted Skimmer—*Libellula semifasciata* (This beautiful dragonfly is an uncommon spring migrant. Sometimes seen in meadows, away from water.)
- Twelve-spotted Skimmer—*Libellula pulchella* (Common resident)
- Widow Skimmer—*Libellula luctuosa* (Fairly common resident)
- Eastern Amberwing—*Perithemis tenera* (Uncommon resident)
- Calico Pennant—*Celithemis elisa* (Uncommon resident)
- Halloween Pennant—*Celithemis eponina* (Fairly common resident. Can be found along the shore of Embayment D or in the meadows of the Baselands.)
- Dot-tailed Whiteface—*Leucorrhinia intacta* (Uncommon resident. Seems to favour small ponds such as the Triangle Pond or the Goldfish Pond.)
- Eastern Pondhawk—*Erythemis simplicicollis* (Common resident, especially in Embayment D)
- Variegated Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum corruptum* (Uncommon migrant. A western species that appears in Toronto most often in late summer or fall. May have bred in 2019 when there was an influx of this species along the Toronto lakeshore.)

- White-faced Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum obtrusum* (Fairly common resident)
- Ruby Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum rubicundulum* (Fairly common resident)
- Saffron-winged Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum costiferum* (Uncommon resident. Several records by Bob Yukich spanning the period from August 11, 2001 to September 7, 2002 and centered in The Flats. This species was also breeding on Ward's Island at the time, but since then it seems to have disappeared from Toronto and is now considered rare in the city.)
- Band-winged Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum semicinctum* (Uncommon resident)
- Black Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum danae* (Rare migrant. Only records from The Spit come from October 1996 when specimens were photographed by M.H. King and D. Beadle in the Baselands.)
- Autumn Meadowhawk—*Sympetrum vicinum* (Common late-season resident)
- Blue Dasher—*Pachydiplax longipennis* (Common resident throughout)
- Striped Saddlebags—*Tamea calverti* (Very rare southern migrant. Only Toronto record is from October 17, 2021, when P. Prior photographed a single specimen on The Spit by the base of the trail that leads to Pipit Point.)
- Carolina Saddlebags—*Tamea carolina* (Uncommon migrant)
- Black Saddlebags—*Tamea lacerata* (Common resident throughout)
- Wandering Glider—*Pantala flavescens* (Fairly common migrant. Most often seen in the fall.)
- Spot-winged Glider—*Pantala hymenaea* (Fairly common migrant. Most often seen in the fall.)

**Note on abundance indications:** It's important to remember that the abundance of any insect species can fluctuate, sometimes drastically, from year to year. The species listed here as "very common" or "common" are likely to be seen on any given day during their season. Those listed as "fairly common" or "uncommon" are less likely to be seen and sometimes require special effort on the part of the observer. Those listed as "rare" should be considered gifts.

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