

MIGRATORY DRAGONFLY PARTNERSHIP



The Migratory Dragonfly Partnership invites you to join a growing community of citizen scientists working together to increase our knowledge about North America's five main migratory dragonfly species: **Common Green Darner** (*Anax junius*), **Variiegated Meadowhawk** (*Sympetrum corruptum*), **Black Saddlebags** (*Tamea lacerata*), **Wandering Glider** (*Pantala flavescens*), and **Spot-Winged Glider** (*Pantala hymenaea*).

MDP PROJECTS:

Pond Watch: Collecting seasonal information at local ponds to investigate annual movements of migratory species.

Migration Monitoring: Tracking the fall and spring movement of the main migratory species in North America.

DRAGONFLY POND WATCH



Participants visit the same pond or wetland regularly throughout the year and note the presence, emergence, and behaviors of any of the five main migratory dragonfly species.

Why monitor ponds?

Collecting seasonal information at local ponds will increase our knowledge of the timing and location of dragonfly migration across North America, and expand our knowledge of the local life history of migrant and resident populations of the same species, and the relationships between them.

Who can participate?

Anyone with regular access to a large pond or wetland who has an interest in dragonflies and in contributing to our growing knowledge of dragonfly migration in North America.

If you are new to dragonflies, recognizing these species is easy to learn! Visit the **MDP** web site at www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org and check out our Resources to download a field guide that includes photos and descriptions of migratory species and the look-alikes with which they are most likely to be confused, as well as silhouettes of migratory species so you can see how they appear in flight and at a distance. You can get to know each species better through our **3-D Virtual Image Library**.

How can I get involved?

Visit the **MDP** web site and log in as a new user. Download a PDF of the MDP Monitoring Protocols manual, register your pond as a Pond Watch site, and start reporting your observations.



MDP MISSION

Combining research, citizen science, education, & outreach to understand North American dragonfly migration; and promote conservation of dragonflies and the wetland habitats on which they rely.

CONNECT



PHOTO CREDITS

Banner:
Variiegated Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum corruptum*),
Dan Jackson.

In-text:
Backyard pond habitat, Celeste
Mazzacano.

Common Green Darner (*Anax junius*), Walter
Chadwick.

MIGRATION MONITORING

Participants monitor the timing, duration, and direction of travel of migrating dragonflies, and note any additional behaviors observed in a migratory flight such as feeding or mating. Photos or videos are strongly encouraged to aid in identification. When gathered across a wide geographic range and throughout a span of years, these data will provide answers to questions about which species are regular migrants; the frequency and timing of migration in different species; sources, routes, and destinations of migrants; and patterns of reproduction, emergence, and movement among migratory dragonflies along their flight paths.



Who can participate?

Anyone willing to collect and record data about dragonfly migration flights, and who has learned to identify the main migratory species in North America.

When?

Fall migrants may be seen moving south from late July to mid-October, depending on location. Major known flyways include the East and West Coasts and the Midwest. Migrants returning north in Spring follow a broader front and don't tend to move in mass flights; for this reason, the return of migrants in spring is often noted as a "first of the year" sighting for a species in your area.

How can I get involved?

Visit www.migratorydragonflypartnership.org and download a PDF of the MDP Monitoring Protocols manual, then log on to the MDP web site and start reporting your observations of migratory flights.

ADDITIONAL PROJECTS



MDP may also institute a variety of different studies conducted across a shorter time span than Pond Watch and Migration Monitoring, to address specific research questions as they arise. For example, we recently completed an analysis of stable hydrogen isotope ratios in Common Green Darner wings, with the help of specimens collected by volunteers. These ratios allow us to determine the distance a dragonfly traveled from the wetland in which it developed, and are giving us a better picture of migration distances and timing.

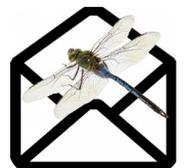
Similar projects involve monitoring and collecting exuviae of Common Green Darners by volunteers, to gain a clearer understanding of regional breeding and emergence patterns. Please visit the MDP web site or sign-up for monthly e-newsletters to receive up-to-date information about these shorter-term projects.

PHOTO CREDITS

Above:
Black Saddlebags
(*Tamea lacerata*),
John Abbott.

Opposite:
Darner exuvia, Alexa
Carleton.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST



Visit the MDP web
site to sign-up!



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