

Checklist of Dragonflies and Damselflies for the Saskatoon Birding Area

A checklist of 51 dragonflies and damselflies for the Saskatoon Birding Area (SBA, see *Saskatoon Area Birds - A Seasonal Checklist* map for boundaries, Saskatoon Nature Society website, <https://saskatoonnature.org/>) has been prepared with the goal of encouraging local naturalists to add the study and enjoyment of the insect order Odonata to the scope of their wildlife interests. The availability of comprehensive field guides which include the SBA now makes this pursuit easier. Alberta naturalist John Acorn's *Damselflies of Alberta* (2004) and the Princeton Field Guide *Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West* (Dennis Paulson, 2009) together cover all dragonflies and damselflies found in our area. Nature Saskatchewan's publication *Dragonflies & Damselflies in the Hand* (Gord Hutchings and Dave Halstead, 2011) covers the boreal forest region of Saskatchewan. Because most dragonflies and damselflies in the SBA can be identified from one or two photographs, a good quality digital camera can replace the capture net. There are, however, a few species that can only be differentiated in hand.

The checklist was compiled using field guides, internet records, and the field notes of several local naturalists. The list is almost certainly incomplete. Approximately 75 species of dragonflies and damselflies are found in Saskatchewan, and records exist for some of them just outside of the SBA. It will be just a matter of time before they are identified inside the SBA. As more local records are added the checklist should become as reliable as the bird checklist produced by the Saskatoon Nature Society.

Both common and scientific names have been used in the checklist as there have been recent name changes that will not be reflected in older field guides. A quick internet search using the names provided in the list should bring up alternate names. For those who use banding codes to record bird and butterfly sightings a similar coding system for odonates is provided on the checklist.

Odonata Central is the official website of the Dragonfly Society of the Americas (<http://www.odonatacentral.org/#/>). The website was completely revised in 2020, and is similar to *eBird* in gathering records for dragonflies and damselflies in North America. Records submitted by members are reviewed and vetted, and used to develop range maps and checklists (registration is free).

Species listed in the SBA checklist which have been verified by Odonata Central are noted by an asterisk (*).

The second page of this document lists the SBA dragonflies and damselflies and the pages on which they are found in the recommended field guides. The third page of this document is the checklist, which can be printed separately. Best results are obtained if 'Actual size' is selected in the print menu.

Recommended Field Guides:

Acorn, J. *Damselflies of Alberta* (2004) The University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, AB
Dunkle, S. *Dragonflies Through Binoculars* (2000) Oxford University Press, New York, NY
Hutchings, G. & Halstead, D. *Dragonflies and Damselflies in the Hand* (2011) Nature Saskatchewan, Regina, SK
Paulson, D. *Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West* (2009) Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ

Craig Salisbury and Lorne Duczek
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Field Guide Reference for Dragonfly and Damselfly Checklist - Saskatoon Birding Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Code	Field Guides (page)		
			Acorn	H & H	Paulson

Dragonflies (*Anisoptera*)

Darner Family (*Aeshnidae*)

Sedge Darner	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>	SEDAR		71	210
Subarctic Darner	<i>Aeshna subarctica</i>	SUDAR		74	211
Canada Darner	<i>Aeshna canadensis</i>	CADAR		68	213
Lake Darner	<i>Aeshna eremita</i>	LADAR		69	214
Variable Darner	<i>Aeshna interrupta</i>	VADAR		70	215
Zigzag Darner	<i>Aeshna sitchensis</i>	ZIDAR		73	217
Lance-tipped Darner	<i>Aeshna constricta</i>	LTDAR			219
Shadow Darner	<i>Aeshna umbrosa</i>	SHDAR		76	222
Common Green Darner	<i>Anax junius</i>	CGDAR			235

Clubtail Family (*Gomphidae*)

Elusive Clubtail	<i>Stylurus notatus</i>	ELCLU			277
Brimstone Clubtail	<i>Stylurus intricatus</i>	BRCLU			281
Pale Snaketail	<i>Ophiogomphus severus</i>	PASNA		81	296

Emerald Family (*Corduliidae*)

American Emerald	<i>Cordulia shurtleffi</i>	AMEME		92	324
Ringed Emerald	<i>Somatochlora albicincta</i>	RIEME		95	330
Hudsonian Emerald	<i>Somatochlora hudsonica</i>	HUEME		99	332
Delicate Emerald	<i>Somatochlora franklini</i>	DEEME		98	340
Ocellated Emerald	<i>Somatochlora minor</i>	OCEME		101	343
Plains Emerald	<i>Somatochlora ensigera</i>	PLEME			345
Spiny Baskettail	<i>Epitheca spinigera</i>	SPBAS		94	365
Beaverpond Baskettail	<i>Epitheca canis</i>	BEBAS		93	366

Skimmer Family (*Libellulidae*)

Four-spotted Skimmer	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	FSSKI		120	379
Twelve-spotted Skimmer	<i>Libellula pulchella</i>	TSSKI			388
Belted Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia proxima</i>	BEWHI		119	424
Dot-tailed Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia intacta</i>	DTWHI			425
Hudsonian Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia hudsonica</i>	HUWHI		117	429
Boreal Whiteface	<i>Leucorrhinia borealis</i>	BOWHI		115	432
Variegated Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum corruptum</i>	VAMEA			457

Common Name	Scientific Name	Code	Field Guides (page)		
			Acorn	H & H	Paulson

Red-veined Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum madidum</i>	RVMEA			460
White-faced Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum obstrusum</i>	WFMEA		124	464
Striped Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum pallipes</i>	STMEA			467
Cherry-faced Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum internum</i>	CFMEA		123	469
Saffron-winged Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum costiferum</i>	SWMEA		121	470
Band-winged Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	BWMEA			472
Black Meadowhawk	<i>Sympetrum danae</i>	BLMEA		122	474

Damselflies (*Zygoptera*)

Broad-winged Damsel Family (*Calopterygidae*)

River Jewelwing	<i>Calopteryx aequabilis</i>	RIJWG	54	39	42
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Spreadwings (*Lestidae*)

Spotted Spreadwing	<i>Lestes congener</i>	SPSPR	69	42	57
Northern Spreadwing	<i>Lestes disjunctus</i>	NOSPR	63	43	58
Lyre-tipped Spreadwing	<i>Lestes unguiculatus</i>	LTSPR	66		62
Emerald Spreadwing	<i>Lestes dryas</i>	EMSPR	60	44	65

Pond Damsels (*Coenagrionidae*)

Prairie Bluet	<i>Coenagrion angulatum</i>	PRBLU	75	52	73
Subartic Bluet	<i>Coenagrion interrogatum</i>	SUBLU	81	53	74
Taiga Bluet	<i>Coenagrion resolutum</i>	TABLU	78	54	75
Tule Bluet	<i>Enallagma carunculatum</i>	TUBLU	103		82
Alkali Bluet	<i>Enallagma clausum</i>	ALBLU	98		86
Northern Bluet	<i>Enallagma annexum</i>	NOBLU	89	56	87
Boreal Bluet	<i>Enallagma boreale</i>	BOBLU	86	57	88
Marsh Bluet	<i>Enallagma ebrium</i>	MABLU	95	58	90
Hagen's Bluet	<i>Enallagma hageni</i>	HABLU	92	59	91
Plains Forktail	<i>Ischnura damula</i>	PLFOR	109	60	115
Western Red Damsel	<i>Amphiagrion abbreviatum</i>	WRDAM	122		130
Sedge Sprite	<i>Nehalennia irene</i>	SESPR	125	61	139

Acorn, J. *Damselflies of Alberta* (2004) The University of Alberta Press, Edmonton, AB

Hutchings, G. & Halstead, D. *Dragonflies & Damselflies in the Hand* (2011), Nature Saskatchewan, Regina, SK

Paulson, D. *Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West* (2009) Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ

Saskatoon Area Dragonflies and Damselflies Checklist

This checklist contains 51 species of dragonflies and damselflies known or thought to be present in the Saskatoon Birding Area (see *Saskatoon Area Birds - A Seasonal Checklist* map for area boundaries). Common and scientific names are provided for each species, along with a 'banding' code and flight periods for most species. Addition of abundance and habitat information is planned as more records are obtained. A list of suggested field guides and related web sites can be found on the accompanying document on the Saskatoon Nature Society web site (<https://saskatoonnature.org/>).

Craig Salisbury and Lorne Duczek - April 2022

Dragonflies (*Anisoptera*)

Darner Family (*Aeshnidae*)

Sedge Darner SEDAR	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>
Subarctic Darner SUDAR	<i>Aeshna subarctica</i>
Canada Darner CADAR	<i>Aeshna canadensis</i> 17 Aug - 27 Sep
Lake Darner* LADAR	<i>Aeshna eremita</i> 20 Jun - 25 Sep
Variable Darner* VADAR	<i>Aeshna interrupta</i> 5 Jun - 6 Oct
Zigzag Darner ZIDAR	<i>Aeshna sitchensis</i> 12 Aug - 22 Aug
Lance-tipped Darner* LTDAR	<i>Aeshna constricta</i> 8 Aug - 6 Sep
Shadow Darner* SHDAR	<i>Aeshna umbrosa</i> 21 Aug
Common Green Darner* CGDAR	<i>Anax junius</i> 28 May - Sep 25

Clubtail Family (*Gomphidae*)

Elusive Clubtail* ELCLU	<i>Stylurus notatus</i> 14 Jul - 24 Jul
Brimstone Clubtail* BRCLU	<i>Stylurus intricatus</i> 12 Jul - Aug 10
Pale Snaketail* PASNA	<i>Ophiogomphus severus</i> 15 Jun - Aug 24

Emerald Family (*Corduliidae*)

American Emerald* AMEME	<i>Cordulia shurtleffii</i> 4 Jun - 17 Jun
Ringed Emerald RIEME	<i>Somatochlora albicincta</i>
Hudsonian Emerald HUEME	<i>Somatochlora hudsonica</i>
Delicate Emerald DEEME	<i>Somatochlora franklini</i>
Ocellated Emerald OCEME	<i>Somatochlora minor</i>
Plains Emerald* PLEME	<i>Somatochlora ensigera</i> 21 Jul - 26 Jul
Spiny Baskettail SPBAS	<i>Epitheca spinigera</i> 28 May
Beaverpond Baskettail BEBAS	<i>Epitheca canis</i>

Skimmer Family (*Libellulidae*)

Four-spotted Skimmer* FSSKI	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i> 22 May - 6 Aug
Twelve-spotted Skimmer* TSSKI	<i>Libellula pulchella</i> 16 Jun - 5 Aug
Belted Whiteface BEWHI	<i>Leucorrhinia proxima</i>
Dot-tailed Whiteface* DTWHI	<i>Leucorrhinia intacta</i> 12 Jun - 19 Jul
Hudsonian Whiteface HUWHI	<i>Leucorrhinia hudsonica</i> 7 Jun
Boreal Whiteface* BOWHI	<i>Leucorrhinia borealis</i> 23 May - 26 Jun
Variigated Meadowhawk* VAMEA	<i>Sympetrum corruptum</i> 16 May - 14 Oct
Red-veined Meadowhawk* RVMEA	<i>Sympetrum madidum</i> 28 Jun - 31 Aug
White-faced Meadowhawk* WFMEA	<i>Sympetrum obstrusum</i> 26 Jul - 15 Sep
Striped Meadowhawk* STMEA	<i>Sympetrum pallipes</i> 29 Jun - 4 Aug
Cherry-faced Meadowhawk* CFMEA	<i>Sympetrum internum</i> 22 Jun - 18 Sep
Saffron-winged Meadowhawk* SWMEA	<i>Sympetrum costiferum</i> 16 Jul - 19 Oct
Band-winged Meadowhawk* BWMEA	<i>Sympetrum semicinctum</i> 22 Jul - 21 Sep

Black Meadowhawk* BLMEA	<i>Sympetrum danae</i> 28 Jun - 7 Oct
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Damselflies (*Zygoptera*)

Broad-winged Damselfly Family (*Calopterygidae*)

River Jewelwing* RIJWG	<i>Calopteryx aequabilis</i> 24 Jun
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Spreadwing Family (*Lestidae*)

Spotted Spreadwing* SPSPR	<i>Lestes congener</i> 6 Jul - 7 Oct
Northern Spreadwing* NOSPR	<i>Lestes disjunctus</i> 28 Jun - 27 Aug
Lyre-tipped Spreadwing* LTSPR	<i>Lestes unguiculatus</i> 28 Jun - 12 Sep
Emerald Spreadwing* EMSPR	<i>Lestes dryas</i> 6 Jun - 29 Jul

Pond Damsel Family (*Coenagrionidae*)

Prairie Bluet* PRBLU	<i>Coenagrion angulatum</i> 21 May - 5 Jul
Subarctic Bluet SUBLU	<i>Coenagrion interrogatum</i> 11 Jun
Taiga Bluet* TABLU	<i>Coenagrion resolutum</i> 26 May - 19 Jul
Tule Bluet TUBLU	<i>Enallagma carunculatum</i> 31 Jul - 19 Aug
Alkali Bluet ALBLU	<i>Enallagma clausum</i>
Northern Bluet* NOBLU	<i>Enallagma annexum</i> 8 Jun - 11 Sep
Boreal Bluet* BOBLU	<i>Enallagma boreale</i> 25 May - 8 Sep
Marsh Bluet* MABLU	<i>Enallagma ebrium</i> 10 Jun - 7 Aug
Hagen's Bluet HABLU	<i>Enallagma hageni</i> 31 Jul
Plains Forktail* PLFOR	<i>Ischnura damula</i> 19 Jul
Western Red Damselfly* WRDAM	<i>Amphiagrion abbreviatum</i> 21 Jun - 3 Aug
Sedge Sprite* SESPR	<i>Nehalennia irene</i> 14 Jun - 29 Jul

*Verified record