

Suspected Species in Chambers County, Texas

Damselflies

SPREADWINGS

- Southern Spreadwing*
- Elegant Spreadwing
- Swamp Spreadwing

POND DAMSELS

- Blue-ringed Dancer
- Blue-fronted Dancer*
- Powdered Dancer
- Blue-tipped Dancer*
- Seepage Dancer
- Aztec Dancer
- Variable Dancer
- Kiowa Dancer*
- Burgundy Bluet
- Orange Bluet*
- Vesper Bluet
- Double-striped Bluet
- Familiar Bluet
- Big Bluet*
- Stream Bluet
- Skimming Bluet
- Slender Bluet
- Rambur's Forktail*
- Citrine Forktail*
- Lilypad Forktail
- Fragile Forktail*

Dragonflies

PETALTAILS

- Gray Petaltail*

DARNERS

- Common Green Darner*
- Comet Darner
- Swamp Darner*
- Regal Darner
- Cyrano Darner

CLUBTAILS

- Sulphur-tipped Clubtail
- Oklahoma Clubtail
- Ashy Clubtail
- Bayou Clubtail
- Jade Clubtail
- Gulf Coast Clubtail
- Russet-tipped Clubtail
- Two-striped Forceptail
- Broad-striped Forceptail*
- Common Sanddragon
- Black-shouldered Spinyleg
- Flag-tailed Spinyleg
- Dragonhunter
- Eastern Ringtail

Dragonflies, Continued

CRUISERS

- Royal River Cruiser*

EMERALDS

- Smoky Shadowdragon
- Common Baskettail
- Slender Baskettail
- Prince Baskettail*

SKIMMERS

- Common Whitetail
- Blue Corporal
- Painted Skimmer
- Twelve-spotted Skimmer*
- Widow Skimmer
- Bar-winged Skimmer
- Great Blue Skimmer*
- Slaty Skimmer*
- Golden-winged Skimmer
- Needham's Skimmer*
- Roseate Skimmer*
- Eastern Amberwing*
- Four-spotted Pennant*
- Ornate Pennant
- Calico Pennant
- Banded Pennant
- Halloween Pennant*
- Red-tailed Pennant*
- Great Pondhawk*
- Eastern Pondhawk*
- Little Blue Dragonlet
- Seaside Dragonlet*
- Band-winged Dragonlet*
- Variegated Meadowhawk*
- Blue-faced Meadowhawk
- Blue Dasher*
- Thornbush Dasher
- Swift Setwing
- Hyacinth Glider*
- Red Saddlebags*
- Carolina Saddlebags
- Black Saddlebags*
- Wandering Glider
- Spot-winged Glider
- Marl Pennant*

* Documented on the refuge

Facts about Dragonflies and Damselflies

The symbol of a healthy **wetland**, dragonflies and damselflies have been on this planet for about **300 million years**. Their ancestors flew during an age where the earth was covered in giant plants and swamps - the Carboniferous Period. Back then, they were as big as today's birds and **had wingspans of almost three feet**.

Today they are much smaller but just as incredible. Both the adult and the larvae hunt and eat insects, including an **average of 100 mosquitoes per day**. They need to be fast and agile. Adult dragonflies are the fastest-flying insect in the world - recorded flying at **35 miles per hour**.

What is the difference between a dragonfly and a damselfly? One difference is that **dragonflies generally hold their wings spread open** - either flat or folded down, whereas **damselflies generally hold their wings pinched closed**.

Both are largely undocumented at Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge. Use this checklist as a start, but don't be surprised if you find something new.

If you get a good picture, try uploading it to a citizen science site. It helps us understand what species we have!

For More Information Contact

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Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge

Common Dragonflies & Damselflies



