

***Argia apicalis* (Say)**

Blue-fronted Dancer

1 Jun - 17 Oct

Common

MALE: 33-40 mm (1.3-1.6 in.) FEMALE: 34-38 (1.3-1.5)

Medium

MALE: Head: blue or greenish. Thorax: bright blue w/ thin or discontinuous black stripes. Abdomen: black w/ pale rings, S8-10 blue. Legs: pale. Stigmas: light brown.

FEMALE: Color forms: Brown or Blue (like male). Abdomen: S8-9 middorsal stripe tan, ovipositor tan.

JUVENILE: Body: brown/tan.

Habitat: Sunny sections of streams, rivers, ponds. Male often perches on exposed sunlit logs or branches protruding from the river. Alights on bare ground.

Reproduction: Male defends territory about 6' in diameter. Mating perching on a weed for 10-30 minutes; Male turns dark in tandem. Female oviposits in tandem on floating vegetation or horizontal (not vertical) material during mid-day for 1-2 hours. Exuviae a few inches from water's edge.

Notes: Blue individuals of both sexes turn dark gray at cool temperatures.

Locations: Avalon, Brown's Bridge, Cattail, Centennial - L/S/VP, Daniels, David Force, Deep Run, Elkhorn - FB/L, Font Hill, Gateway - AE/RF, Henryton, Kindler, Kittamaquindi, Marriottsville, Meadowbrook, Murray Hill, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Savage Mill, Vantage Point - S, Vollmerhausen, Wilde Lake, Wincopin, Woodstock

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)