

***Gomphurus vastus* Walsh**

Cobra Clubtail

16 Jun - 10 Jul

Uncommon - S3

47-57 mm (1.9-2.2 in.)

Medium

MALE: Eyes: dark green. Face: greenish w/ black cross stripes. Thorax: yellowish-green w/ brown stripes. Abdomen: blackish w/ yellow markings; S7-9 strongly clubbed w/ half-length middorsal yellow marking, S9 also has lateral broad, full length yellow marking. Legs: black. Wings: basal ¼ flavescent.

FEMALE: Similar to M; abdomen stouter.

Habitat: Large rivers. Lakes. Alternating sand/gravel; brush near water's edge. Sun-shade interface, hovers 8 – 20 inches above water w/ abdomen raised. Range <0.5 mile. from water.

Reproduction: Male patrols fast over water. Mating in trees or shrubs. Female oviposits by dipping abdomen in water to wash off eggs. Exuviae on sunny side of tree trunks/logs coming directly out of the water; emergence takes 20 min, 10 minutes more for wings to harden; teneral then fly 10-20 m up into trees along river bank; typically nymph crawls across sand/gravel at river's edge, climbs 3' to vegetated part of bank, stops at base of grasses, sedges, roots, etc.

Similar Species: *G. fraternus* (Midland C.; not in Howard County) face does not have stripes.

Locations: Old Frederick

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)