

***Anax longipes* Hagen**

Comet Darner

7 May - 30 Aug

Uncommon

75-87 mm (3.0-3.4 in.)

Large

MALE: Head: unmarked green forehead. Eyes: green. Thorax: green. Abdomen: S1-2 green; remainder bright fiery red. Legs: very long (black basal, rest brick-red). Wings: clear but may be washed w/ amber. Stigmas: tawny. Appendages: red.

FEMALE: Eyes: blue. Abdomen: green basal and red-brown beyond w/ dull green to tan spots. Chunkier than male.

JUVENILE: Eyes: gray. Abdomen: pale orange; spots pale blue in juvenile F.

Habitat: Widespread on ponds; borrow (sterile, shallow, gravel) pits/semi-permanent, usually grassy, ponds; ample shoreline vegetation of rushes, pickerelweed, etc. Larvae do not seem to compete well w/ other dragonflies or fish. Rarely seen at rest. Does not join feeding swarms.

Reproduction: Male patrols 3-6' above the water in territory up to 150' long from 9 a.m. to late afternoon. Mate while pair hangs in tree. Female oviposits in submerged plant stems or algae; Female not observed in tandem or being guarded by male. Exuviae in swampy environment on vegetation not far above water.

Notes: Old name: Long-legged Green Darner. Noticeably large than *A. junius* (Common Green D.)

Locations: Alpha Ridge - P1/P3-4/TcP, APL - BP, Centennial - S/VP, Elkhorn, Emerson – GC, Farm Ponds, Folly Qtr - MS, Font Hill, Fultion Schools, Gateway - AE/LP/RF/SM, Guilford - GV/Park, High Ridge, Long Corner - P, Manor Woods, Mayfield Woods - P/GG, Meadowbrook, MPEA - P4, Rockburn, Schooley Mill, Sewell's Orchard, VFW Pond, Wesley Lane, Western Regional.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)