

***Anax junius* (Drury)**

**Common Green Darner**

**13 Mar - 11 Nov**

**Common**

**68-80 mm (2.7-3.2 in.)**

**Large**

**MALE:** Head: yellow w/ bull's-eye pattern at top. Eyes: patterned. Face: greenish-yellow. Thorax: green. Abdomen: mostly bright blue (to purplish gray or even green at cool temps) w/ black tip. Legs: black (reddish-brown femora). Wings: clear (sometimes washed w/ amber). Stigmas: yellowish. Appendages: brown.

**FEMALE:** Occiput: pair of blunt teeth. Abdomen: dull green. (Dunkle says gray-green sides). Slightly larger/chunkier than male.

**JUVENILE:** Abdomen: light reddish-brown.

**Habitat:** Wide range of habitats; shallow heavily vegetated ponds/slow streams. Flies early a.m. to dark; often perches low among weeds and grass. A fierce predator; spends most of daylight hours on the wing. Migratory.

**Reproduction:** Male patrols irregular territories sporadically at ~3'. Mating pairs hang in tall weeds, bushes, or trees. Female oviposits alone or in tandem (only Darner ovipositing in tandem). Female usually places eggs below surface in submerged or floating plants; occasionally backs down a stem until submerged; sometimes oviposit in dry algae or mud above water level. Exuviae in swampy environment on vegetation not far above water. Resident and migrant populations. Larvae >50 days to develop.

**Locations:** Alpha Ridge - M/P3-4/TcP, APL - BP, Benson Branch, Big Branch, Brown's Bridge, Carmax, Cattail, Centennial - L/S/VP/WD, Cent HS, Coca Cola Drive, Corridor, Country Meadows, David Force, Deep Run, Dorsey Hall, Dunteachin Farm, Elkhorn - L/FB, Coca Cola Drive - BEL/ES, Emerson - GC, Farm Ponds, Folly Qtr - MS, Font Hill, Forest Ridge, Fox Chase, Frederick Road, Fulton Schools, Gateway - AE/DR/JM/RF/SM, Guilford GV/Park, High Ridge, Hipsely Mill, Hollofield, Homespun, Hugg-Thomas #1/#2, Jackson Pond, Kindler - D/P, Kittamaqundi, Lark Brown, Long Corner - P, Lynn Buff, Manor Woods, Marriotsville, Mayfield Woods - P/GG, Meadowbrook, MPEA - P3/P4, Milk Plant - FP/LP/Schools, Mission, Montpelier, Mount Pleasant, MPEA - P3, Murray Hill, Nichol's Cove, North Laurel, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Plum Tree, River Hill HS, Rockburn, Savage Mill, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Scott's Cove, Sewell's Orchard, Stevens E/W, Trinity, UMDCF - S, Vantage Point - S, VFW Pond, Warfield's Pond, Wesley Lane, Western Regional, Wincopin, Woodstock.

[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)