//ragonflies



Did You Know?

The lifespan of an adult dragonfly only lasts about 2 months.

Life Cycle

Adult dragonflies are often large and very colorful, however most of a dragonfly's life is spent underwater in the larval stage as a hungry nymph.

EGG

A female dragonfly will lay her eggs on a submerged plant in the water.



NYMPH

The eggs hatch into a nymph. As they grow, the nymphs molt (shed) their skin several times.





IMAGE SOURCE: Daniel Neal

ADULT

When the nymph is fully grown, it climbs up out of the water and onto a plant to shed its exoskeleton, or outer skin. The old skin is called an exuvia and gets left behind on the plant. The dragonfly is now an adult and spreads out its wings to dry before it can fly away.

Tragonfly Habitat

The native vegetation around the edges of ponds and streams are important to dragonflies; providing shelter during poor weather and habitat for them to hunt and mate. Here, adult dragonflies will hunt for food and begin looking for a mate. Once the dragonfly finds a mate, the female finds a calm body of water that will be a good place to lay her eggs, and the life cycle of the dragonfly begins all over again.

The banks of our ponds are being improved to encourage a native plant system that supports native insects, birds, amphibians and mammals by providing food and shelter.

