

Odonata & Lepidoptera Survey Summary 2008

Surveys were conducted each Monday (excluding Holidays and inclement weather) from early April through October for insects in the orders Odonata (damselflies and dragonflies) and Lepidoptera (butterflies). Liberty Park, including Pond Brook South Conservation Area, and Munroe Falls Home Property were the focus of these surveys this year. While this is not a formal citizen science program, a number of registered volunteers and resource management staff participated on a regular basis.

Methodologies for the surveys were simple and effective, including performing detailed searches through appropriate habitat during weather events above 65 degrees. Individual dragonflies, damselflies and butterflies were captured for detailed observation when necessary and photographic vouchers were taken when a new species for the area was observed. Each week a list of species observed was recorded in the natural resources database so species accounts and trends could be established.

Table I documents all of the species observed during 2008 in Munroe Falls Metro Park, Munroe Falls Home Property, Liberty Park and Liberty Park South. Species are listed in alphabetical order by common name and odonates and lepidopterans are inter-mixed. Some other sites were surveyed during the 2008 season including Clinton Towpath, Akron Towpath, and the Bike & Hike trail. These sites were not the focus of our studies and aren't reported on in this summary. Species accounts for these areas can be found in the database.

Fifty-two species were recorded for Liberty Park in 2008. While none were state-listed species, several are considered uncommon by Rosche, et. al. 2008 including Aurora damselfly, Clamp-tipped Emerald, Dragonhunter, Green Striped Darner, Spatterdock Darner, and Swamp Darner. The clamp-tipped emerald, dragonhunter and green-striped darner had not been recorded for the park before 2008. Ten additional species were recorded for Liberty Park South.

Munroe Falls Home Property was surveyed throughout the summer and twenty-six species were recorded for the park including the uncommon spatterdock darner. Heron Pond in Munroe Falls Metro Park was also visited on two occasions during the summer and resulted in 14 records for the park including the common, but interesting unicorn and lancet clubtails.

Table I. Species Accounts for Liberty Park, Liberty Park South, Munroe Falls Metro Park (Main) and Munroe Falls Home Property, 2008.

| | Liberty Park- Main | Liberty Park - South | Munroe Falls - Main | Munroe Falls – Home |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| aurora damsel | X | | | |
| banded hairstreak | | X | | |
| black saddlebags | X | | X | X |
| black swallowtail | X | | | |
| black-tipped darner | X | | | |
| blue dasher | X | | X | X |
| Cabbage butterfly | X | X | | X |
| calico pennant | X | | X | X |
| Carolina saddlebags | X | | | |
| clamp-tipped emerald | X | | | |
| clouded sulphur | X | X | | X |
| comma | | X | | X |
| common baskettail | X | | | |
| common green darner | X | | X | X |
| common pondhawk | X | | | X |
| common spreadwing | X | | X | |
| common whitetail | X | | X | X |
| common wood nymph | | X | | |
| delta-spotted spiketail | X | | | |
| dot-tailed whiteface | X | | | |
| dragonhunter | X | | | |
| Dun skipper | | X | | |
| eastern amberwing | X | | | X |
| eastern forktail | X | | | X |
| eastern red damsel | X | | | |
| eastern tailed blue | | X | | |
| ebony jewelwing | X | | X | |
| elegant spreadwing | X | | | |
| emerald spreadwing | X | | | |
| eyed brown | | X | | |
| familiar bluet | X | | | |
| fragile forktail | X | | | |
| great spangled fritillary | X | X | | |
| green-striped darner | X | | | |
| Halloween pennant | X | | | |
| Hobomok skipper | | X | | |
| Juvenal's dusky wing | X | | | |
| lancet clubtail | | | X | X |

| | Liberty Park- Main | Liberty Park - South | Munroe Falls - Main | Munroe Falls - Home |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| least skipper | X | X | | X |
| little glassywing skipper | | X | | |
| little wood satyr | | X | | |
| monarch | X | X | | X |
| mourning cloak | X | X | | |
| orange sulphur | X | X | | X |
| painted skimmer | X | | | |
| pearl crescent | X | X | | X |
| Peck's skipper | X | X | | |
| prince baskettail | | | X | X |
| red admiral | | X | | |
| red-spotted purple | X | X | | |
| ruby meadowhawk | X | | | X |
| shadow darner | X | | | |
| slaty skimmer | X | | X | X |
| slender spreadwing | X | | | |
| spatterdock darner | X | | | X |
| spicebush swallowtail | X | | | X |
| spring azure | X | X | | X |
| swamp darner | X | | | |
| tiger swallowtail | X | X | | |
| twelve-spotted skimmer | X | | X | X |
| unicorn clubtail | | | X | X |
| viceroy | | X | | X |
| violet dancer | X | | X | X |
| widow skimmer | X | | X | X |
| yellow-legged meadowhawk | X | | | |
| Zabulon skipper | X | | | |

Insects surveys will continue in 2009 and sites to be surveyed will be determined at a later date.