



Dragonhunter

Hagenius brevistylus
FAMILY: CLUBTAIL

- Percher
- Largest dragonfly in Delaware
- Eats other dragonflies and butterflies (note long hind legs)
- Lives on rivers

ABOUT

The dragonhunter is largest dragonfly in Delaware. This huge insect usually lives on large rivers. It has exceptionally long legs which allow it to grab large prey. Dragonhunters are usually seen in mid summer.

MALES VS FEMALES

Males and females look alike with gorgeous green eyes and black and yellow striped bodies.

WHAT DO THEY EAT?

As its name implies, the Dragonhunter feeds on large insects such as other dragonflies and butterflies. It usually perches on a dead branch or twig and waits for prey to fly by. It captures its prey by flying after it and grabbing it with its spiny legs.

LAYING EGGS

Dragonhunter females lay their eggs while flying in a zigzag course, circling over a small area of open water.

LEARN MORE

FUN FACT

Dragonhunters are also exceptionally large and efficient predators of other aquatic insects or even small fish and tadpoles.

<https://tinyurl.com/DragonhuntersDE>