

## **The World of Dragonflies**

Dragonflies are hard to overlook in the vicinity of ponds on sunny and warm summer days. They rank among the most relentless and accomplished fliers from among big insects. Their slender bodies with two pairs of membranous wings have been cruising the air for hundreds of millions of years. They are perfectly equipped to hunt flying prey.

For their proper development dragonfly larvae need diverse types of water. Unfortunately, the water pools in Central Europe have been significantly impaired by civilization, they have lost their rich diversity and consequently many dragonfly species have no place to reproduce. Nearly a half of the 70 local dragonfly species are therefore more or less rare and endangered, some of them have already disappeared or occur only sporadically. If you expect the biggest number of dragonflies near the largest ponds you will be disappointed. Not every pond offers ideal conditions for them.