**Libellula luctuosa**  Burmeister

**Widow Skimmer**

<table>
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<th>Common</th>
<th>Medium</th>
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<td>42-50 mm (1.7-2.0 in.)</td>
<td>20 May - 8 Oct</td>
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**MALE:** Thorax: black, somewhat hairy; pruinosity. Abdomen: white/blue pruinosity. Wings: basal ½ black, then large opaque white spots; tips clear. Legs: black. Appendages: blackish.

**FEMALE:** Body: dark, w/ lateral yellow stripes. Wings: no opaque white spots next to dark basal areas, tips smoky. Stigmas: dark.

**JUVENILE:** Body: like F. FWs: small amount of black. HWs: basal 1/2 black.

**Habitat:** Ponds, small lakes, marshes. Forages in fields/open habitat. Perches obliquely on stems.

**Reproduction:** Male defends small territory w/ slow fluttery patrols. Female oviposits alone; drops eggs into pond water. Exuviae in long grass on bank.

**Notes:** Old name: Pied Skimmer, Widow.


[Phenograms](#) (pages 2 – 6).

[Locations](#) (in Howard County)

[Identification features and odonate anatomy](#)