

Phenology calendar & data summary

Carlton County, Minnesota

Phenology is the study of seasonal changes in plants and animals, and how those changes relate to climate. When you take note of nature’s calendar, by writing down your observations and wondering how it’s all connected, you’re thinking about phenology. Oftentimes, the concept of phenology is easiest to understand through examples, and several are listed in the grid below.

This calendar was made with historical records from Carlton County. (For information on the source of records, see seasonwatch.umn.edu/orientation-center#data-collectors.) What species and seasonal changes will you notice in your local environment throughout the year? Explore the Season Watch website (seasonwatch.umn.edu) for resources and ideas. Enjoy tracking nature’s cycles in Minnesota!



Season Watch is a collaboration between Northern Community Radio and the University of Minnesota. Funding from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources.



Average date	Phenological event In other words, “Which plant or animal can be seen doing what?”	Earliest date on record	Latest date on record	The average, earliest, and latest dates are based on:	Find out more, including how to make your own phenology observations
April 14	Wood frogs (<i>Rana sylvatica</i>) calling	March 29	May 5	14 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/wood-frog
April 21	Painted turtles (<i>Chrysemys picta</i>) first seen	March 28	June 1	16 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/painted-turtle
April 23	Wood frog (<i>Rana sylvatica</i>) eggs	April 4	May 29	15 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/wood-frog
May 3	Eastern Canada white violet (<i>Viola canadensis</i>) flowering	April 15	May 29	17 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/canada-white-violet
May 6	Common dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>) flowering	April 23	May 24	17 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/common-dandelion
May 8	American toads (<i>Anaxyrus americanus</i>) calling	April 4	May 29	15 records collected from 1997 to 2012	seasonwatch.umn.edu/american-toad
May 26	Red columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>) flowering	May 14	June 9	17 records collected from 1997 to 2013	seasonwatch.umn.edu/red-columbine