

Phenology calendar & data summary

Hennepin 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 understood through examples, and several are listed in the grid below.

This calendar was made with historical records from Hennepin 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 17	Pasqueflower (<i>Anemone patens</i>) flowering	April 3	May 1	20 records collected from 1959 to 1985	seasonwatch.umn.edu/pasqueflower
May 14	Red columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>) flowering	April 26	May 25	27 records collected from 1960 to 1991	seasonwatch.umn.edu/red-columbine
May 17	Greater yellow lady’s slipper (<i>Cypripedium parviflorum</i> v. <i>pubescens</i>) flowering	May 1	May 27	24 records collected from 1961 to 1990	seasonwatch.umn.edu/greater-yellow-ladys-slipper
June 8	Showy lady’s slipper (<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>) flowering	May 24	June 18	30 records collected from 1960 to 1991	seasonwatch.umn.edu/showy-ladys-slipper
June 26	Common milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>) flowering	June 9	July 17	29 records collected from 1960 to 1991	seasonwatch.umn.edu/common-milkweed
July 14	Wild bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>) flowering	June 21	July 24	27 records collected from 1960 to 1991	seasonwatch.umn.edu/wild-bergamot