

Phenology calendar & data summary

Marshall 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 Marshall 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!



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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
March 28	American robins (<i>Turdus migratorius</i>) first seen	March 18	April 9	24 records collected from 1984 to 2011	seasonwatch.umn.edu/american-robin
April 4	Wood ducks (<i>Aix sponsa</i>) first seen	March 25	April 15	22 records collected from 1984 to 2011	seasonwatch.umn.edu/wood-duck
April 10	Wood frogs (<i>Rana sylvatica</i>) first heard	March 31	April 19	14 records collected from 1998 to 2011	seasonwatch.umn.edu/wood-frog