



May 13, 2019

Good afternoon!

We'll bet that there were a lot of plants purchased in time for Mother's Day this weekend... if you gave or received plants, hopefully they will bring great joy this season! Remember that the "frost-free" date for our area is May 15 - BUT that is not a guarantee! However, the weather forecast doesn't show any night-time temperatures low enough to produce frost, so we MAY be out of the woods this year.

The OSU Phenology Calendar remains online at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/CalendarView.asp> and available to those who would like to see where we are as far as growing degree days or even check on past dates. The data collected at the phenology garden at Lake Park will go to a national research project. We plan to work on Wednesday mornings – subject to weather and changes in personal plans. Please feel free to stop and ask questions while we are there or contact us through the Extension office (find the contact info above).

Here is the data by town/zip code for the number of growing degree day units (GDD units) in our county as of May 12, 2019:

Adams Mills/43821	426 (+76 GDD from 5/5/19)	339 GDDS for 5/12/2018 (last year)
Conesville/43811	413 (+74)	325
Coshocton/43812	382 (+68)	315
Fresno/43824	354 (+64)	311
Walhonding/43843	351 (+63)	312
Warsaw/43844	365 (+65)	314
W. Lafayette/43845	387 (+79)	314

Some phenological events that you may be seeing now or will see soon are:

- Optimal time to spray for gypsy moth at 370
- Common Sweetshrub (*Calycanthus floridus*), first bloom at 371
- Lesser Peach Tree Borer (*Synanthedon pictipes*), adult emergence at 372
- Ohio Buckeye (*Aesculus glabra*), full bloom at 374
- Holly Leafminer (*Phytomyza ilicis*), adult emergence at 375
- Euonymus Scale (*Unaspis euonymii*), egg hatch - 1st generation at 406
- Ohio Pioneer Thicket Hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*), first bloom at 406
- Catawba Rhododendron (*Rhododendron catawbiense*), first bloom at 407
- Beautybush (*Kolkwitzia amabilis*), first bloom at 417
- Miss Kim Manchurian Lilac (*Syringa pubescens*), first bloom at 422

Events that should be occurring next are:

- White Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginica*), first bloom at 435
- Locust Leafminer (*Odontota dorsalis*), adult emergence at 437
- Boxwood Leafminer (*Buxus sempervirens*), adult emergence at 440
- Red Prince Weigela (*Weigela florida*), first bloom at 446
- Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), first bloom at 467
- Ohio Pioneer Thicket Hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) full bloom at 470
- Large Crabgrass - 25% seedling emergence at 472
- Common Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*), first bloom at 478
- Sweet Mockorange (*Philadelphus coronarius*), first bloom at 482

We have a range of 351 to 426 GDD units across the county, disregarding micro-climates. Those 75 GDDs can make several days' difference from one part of the county to another regarding when a particular insect emerges or a plant blooms; in fact, the GDDs for Fresno and Walhonding are almost exactly the same *this* week as recorded for Adams Mills *last* week! As you can see by looking at the GDDs listed for the same date last year, we are still a week or so ahead. Looking at the forecast for next week, we will again see an increase in GDDs in our area. Our daytime highs will range in the 60's to upper 70's; nightly lows will likely be in the low-40's to the low 60's. And again, it appears there will be "enough" rain...

We had one type of flowering bulb last week – summer snowflakes (*Leucojum aestivum*) were still looking good; they have white, bell-shaped blooms with a small green dot on each petal. The Van Houtte spirea is in bloom; sargent viburnum, fringe tree, and sage blooms are opening; bachelor buttons and some iris are in flower; and other blooms are not far behind! All the milkweeds - common, swamp, and butterfly weed are shooting up – we hope to have another great monarch season. We found eggs of viburnum leaf beetles on our arrowwood viburnum several days ago and sprayed horticultural oil on the larvae this week; it looks as though we'll need another treatment, but it may be hard to get it applied before the larvae morph into adult stage.

Stop by the information station to see upcoming events and pick up some fact sheets – we'll put out more! A corrected version of the fact sheet on hydrangeas was added this week; other topics include mulching, garlic mustard, prohibited invasive plants list, and birdhouse plans.



Van Houtte spirea (*Spiraea x vanhouttei*) is in bloom along the rail fence of the phenology garden. Summer snowflakes (*Leucojum aestivum*) are the last bulbs in bloom along the walking trail.



This photo from an Ohio State fact sheet shows the larvae of the viburnum leaf beetle (*Pyrrhalta viburni*); they darken as they mature. A fact sheet on this destructive pest can be found at: <https://ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/anr-39>

