

**May 6, 2019**

Good afternoon!

We hate to complain, but Mother Nature is certainly not making it easy to get outside this spring! A break in the rain this weekend did help – hopefully you were able to enjoy it. Depending on the type of soil and drainage on your property, perhaps you were able to get in a little gardening? We were able to weed and rake a few beds in the phenology area at Lake Park on Wednesday; perhaps we can finish this week and apply more mulch soon. As the weather warms, we'll see more pollinators too – if it's not raining...

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. We will be reporting our data from the phenology garden at Lake Park to a national research project. We started our weekly work sessions last week and 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 5, 2019:

Adams Mills/43821	350 (+85 GDD from 4/28/19)	240 GDDs for 5/5/2018 (last year)
Conesville/43811	339 (+81)	233
Coshocton/43812	314 (+73)	228
Fresno/43824	290 (+64)	226
Walhonding/43843	288 (+65)	226
Warsaw/43844	300 (+69)	227
W. Lafayette/43845	318 (+74)	227

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

- Red Chokeberry (*Aronia arbutifolia*), first bloom at 281
- Persian Lilac (*Syringa x persica*), full bloom at 303
- Red Horsechestnut (*Aesculus x carnea*), first bloom at 304
- Pine Needle Scale (*Chionaspis pinifoliae*), egg hatch - 1st generation at 305
- Eastern Spruce Gall Adelgid (*Adelges abietis*), egg hatch at 308
- Vanhoutte Spirea (*Spiraea x vanhouttei*), first bloom at 309
- Common Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*), full bloom at 315
- Pink Princess Weigela (*Weigela florida*), first bloom at 316
- Redosier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*), first bloom at 323
- Dwarf Fothergilla (*Fothergilla gardenii*), full bloom at 325
- Lilac Borer (*Podosesia syringae*), adult emergence at 330
- Optimal time to spray for gypsy moth at 370

Events that should be occurring next are:

- 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
- White Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginica*), first bloom at 435

We have a range of 288 to 350 GDD units across the county, disregarding micro-climates. Those 62 GDDs can make several days' difference from one part of the county to another regarding when a particular insect emerges or a plant blooms. As you can see by looking at the GDDs listed for the same date last year, we are more than a week 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 and 70's; nightly lows will be in the mid-40's to the upper 50's. Although we could use a break, there is plenty of rain coming this next week.

The beautiful daffodils in the phenology area are finished; we'll let the foliage turn brown before removing it so that the bulbs can absorb the nutrition. There are buds on the iris, 'Miss Kim' lilac, Van Houtte spirea, and sargent viburnum. The crabapple 'Coralcole' is in bloom now; we will be seeing Eastern tent caterpillars soon. Another pest to watch for is viburnum leaf miner; it prefers arrowwood viburnum but could invade others. The larvae are susceptible to horticultural oils, but one needs to be diligent. It's a bit warmer in town, so we've seen spirea in bloom in places. The deer enjoyed the few tulips we have – they don't like daffodils, so those are a good substitute!

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



Some Master Gardener Volunteers were busy raking leaves and cutting old stalks out of the phenology area this week.



Our 'Coralcole' crabapple (*Malus 'Coralcole'*) tree bloomed this week in the phenology area. Eastern tent caterpillars will be apparent in the near future.

