

**June 24, 2019**

Good afternoon!

Our hearts go out to the folks who had water damage in the West Lafayette area – we hope they can recover quickly and well! For those who don't know, this flooding was due to too much rain in too short a time period, not from a stream overflow. The rest of the county got rather soggy last week (we had over 3 inches of rain just in the phenology area at Lake Park), but the great weather over the weekend certainly did help the drying process.

The OSU Phenology Calendar is online at <http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/gdd/CalendarView.asp>. It is available to those who would like to see the status of growing degree days or even check on past dates. We have submitted some data on local pollinators to The Great Sunflower Project. The committee usually works 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 June 23, 2019:

Adams Mills/43821	1128 (+137 GDD from 6/16/19)	1223 GDDs for 6/23/2018 (last year)
Conesville/43811	1105 (+135)	1178
Coshocton/43812	1055 (+131)	1145
Fresno/43824	1006 (+128)	1129
Walhonding/43843	1007 (+129)	1138
Warsaw/43844	1028 (+129)	1142
W. Lafayette/43845	1060 (+132)	1142

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

- Rosebay Rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*), first bloom at 1010
- Greenspire Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*), full bloom at 1047
- Southern Catalpa (*Catalpa bignonioides*), full bloom at 1073
- June Bride Littleleaf Linden (*Tilia cordata*), full bloom at 1115
- Bottlebrush Buckeye (*Aesculus parviflora*), first bloom at 1158
- Large Crabgrass, 80% seedling emergence at 1160
- Ural Falsespirea (*Sorbaria sorbifolia*), first bloom at 1170

Events that should be occurring next are:

- Panicked Goldenraintree (*Koeleruteria paniculata*), full bloom at 1251

As you can see by the very short list of events above, we are entering the time of the season when the spring blooms are finished. There are not very many summer blooming events on the phenology calendar and just a few insect events.

We have a range of 1006 to 1128 GDD units across the county, disregarding micro-climates. Those 122 GDDs can make several days' difference regarding when a particular insect emerges or a plant blooms. Our temps this week brought us a little closer to last year's figures, but we are still a little bit behind. Looking at the forecast for the next week, we will again see an increase in GDDs in our area. According to *Weather.com*, daytime highs will range in the 80's, perhaps as much as 90 degrees; nightly lows will likely range in the 60's. There is a chance of rain for part of the week, but it looks as though there will be several sunny days as well.

We spotted the first Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) this week on a quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*) plant along the walking path at Lake Park – be watching your plants at home! Instead of using a chemical treatment, we like to use a stick to shove them into a cup of soapy water. Please remember: DO NOT apply chemicals to blooming plants if at all possible – our pollinators can't tolerate that! There were buds on the Culver's root, bee balm, swamp milkweed, rattlesnake master and more. The butterfly weed and milkweed are blooming and attracting pollinators; also in bloom are the oakleaf hydrangea, elderberries, lamb's ear, coreopsis, and yarrow. Our newly-planted native plants are doing well and we look forward to their blooms! Check out the new bumblebee poster on the information station; it is a nice tool for identifying spring native bumblebees by species and gender.



Our deciduous holly shrubs have been blooming – and attracting loads of honeybees! Did you know that hollies are gender-specific? The photo on the left shows some female blooms; on the right is a photo of the male blooms. There must be at least one male plant in the vicinity for the females to be pollinated and bear fruit.



This female bumblebee was enjoying the common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) blooms.



Here's our first Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) of the season on June 21 in the phenology area– right on schedule phenology-wise!

