

# SEEDS Forest Area Wildflower Challenge




**We need YOU to help us  
with our Citizen Science project this spring!**



It is spring and our outdoor world is quickly changing as temperatures warm and plants and animals who have been dormant or hidden throughout winter emerge again. The forest floor changes nearly every day as spring wildflowers reappear. Use these guidelines and the tracking sheet to observe and record the wildflowers you see and their different phases. If you want your information to be included in the Nature's Notebook citizen science program, email [jkreider@forestarea.org](mailto:jkreider@forestarea.org) with pictures and/or dates of your observations. Include the type of wildflower, the phase of growth you are seeing, and the date. Happy wildflower hunting!

## **Guidelines for making observations:**

1. Choose a specific spot in your yard or nearby your home and monitor wildflower growth in that area. You can mark it off with sticks or simply remember where it is. Check the spot every day as things change quickly this time of year!
2. Choose a section of road or trail nearby your home that you can walk every day. Observe and record the growth of wildflowers along your walk including the dates you first observe them and when you observe the different phases noted below.
3. Have fun! The tracking sheet below includes common wildflowers to our area, but don't hesitate to identify others and include them in your observations or record other signs of spring you see!



<b>Type of Wildflower</b>	<b>Initial Growth</b> When you first notice growth- often above ground buds or shoots	<b>Leaves</b> 1 or more live, fully unfolded leaves is visible	<b>Buds</b> 1 or more fresh but unopened buds is visible	<b>Open flowers</b> 1 or more fully opened flowers is visible
<b>Trout Lily</b> 	(Insert observation dates in each column)			
<b>Spring Beauty</b> 				
<b>White Trillium</b> 				

<b>Type of Wildflower</b>	<b>Initial Growth</b> When you first notice growth- often above ground buds or shoots	<b>Leaves</b> 1 or more live, fully unfolded leaves is visible	<b>Buds</b> 1 or more fresh but unopened buds is visible	<b>Open Flowers</b> 1 or more fully opened flowers is visible
Dutchman's Breeches 				
Marsh Marigolds 				

For more information on identifying Michigan wildflowers, visit:

[www.michwildflowers.com](http://www.michwildflowers.com)

For more information on the Nature's Notebook Citizen Science Program of the National Phenology Network, visit:

[https://www.usanpn.org/natures\\_notebook](https://www.usanpn.org/natures_notebook)

# SEEDS EcoSchool Wildflower Challenge

Local wildflowers are fun to search for and identify in spring! These ones were found in Fife Lake in April, 2020. Can you find them in the outdoors near you?

## Dutchman's Breech



*Initial Growth, April 24*



*Buds, April 24*



*Flowers, April 28*

## Spring Beauty



*Buds, April 24*



*Buds, April 24*



*Flowers, April 24*

## Trout Lily



*Leaves, April 10*



*Flowers, April 28*

## White Trillium



*Buds, May 4*



*Flowers, May 7*