

Phenology: What is it and how can you help?

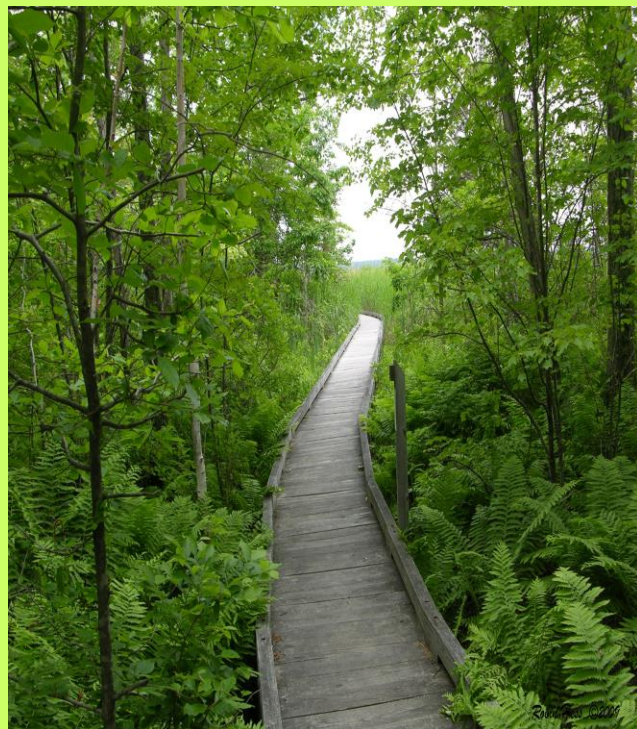
Definition: Study of the relationship between timing of biological phenomena and climate change. (Merriam Webster)

But what does that mean?

Phenology looks at:

- Flowers blooming
- Birds migrating
- Animals breeding

Specifically the observable life stages with defined beginning and end points called Phenophases.



Ecologically important because timing changes can lead to:

- Lack of pollination
- Misaligned breeding seasons
- Variances in animal migration patterns
- Earlier blooms and later frosts

Effects on humans include:

- Earlier and longer allergy seasons
- Lack of tourism revenue
- Lower crop yields
- Changes in timing of fishing and lobstering

If you're interested in learning more about phenology here at the Discovery Center or becoming a monitor contact Melissa Brogle at 603-778-0015 or Melissa.Brogle@wildlife.nh.gov.

