

What's Happening out in The Grove this SPRING

Early Spring:

- ✿ Skunk cabbages emerge in wetlands and depressions
- ✿ Red-winged blackbirds begin arriving to establish territories
- ✿ Western chorus frogs call for mates on the ponds
- ✿ Coyote, fox and raccoon young are born
- ✿ Salamanders emerge and lay their eggs in the ponds
- ✿ Woodcocks migrate through the woods and prairies
- ✿ Young great-horned owls hatch and may be heard calling for food
- ✿ Migratory ducks and geese stop over on the ponds
- ✿ Skunks emerge from their dens to find mates
- ✿ Baby muskrats are born in their dome-shaped dens
- ✿ Snowdrops and Siberian squill bloom on the forest floor

Mid Spring:

- ✿ Turtles emerge from hibernation and sun themselves on logs
- ✿ Kingfishers, great blue herons and kinglets migrate through
- ✿ Wildflowers such as bloodroot and spring beauties bloom
- ✿ Dragonflies return to the ponds to hunt for food
- ✿ Toads can be heard trilling over the wetlands
- ✿ Praying mantis nymphs emerge from egg cases
- ✿ The first rabbit litters of the year are born
- ✿ Eastern garter snakes emerge from hibernation to hunt
- ✿ Turkey vultures migrate and circle overhead
- ✿ Female bees begin nest construction
- ✿ The wetlands teem with daphnia and fairy shrimp

Late Spring:

- ✿ White-tailed deer fawns are born
- ✿ Fox and coyote pups leave dens with their parents
- ✿ Bats emerge from hibernation to feed in the night
- ✿ Wild ginger, violets, may apples and trillium bloom
- ✿ Morels and other mushrooms appear in the woods
- ✿ Warbler migration is at its peak in the woodlands
- ✿ Monarch butterflies start to arrive from the south
- ✿ Baby raccoons leave their dens for the first time
- ✿ Orioles and bluebirds arrive and begin constructing nests
- ✿ Toad tadpoles begin metamorphosis in the pond
- ✿ Woodpecker young are born in their tree cavity nests