

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