

Blue Ridge Parkway Bloom Calendar

The bloom peak occurs within the dates indicated. Bloom peaks along the Parkway in Virginia are usually earlier than in North Carolina due to lower average elevation. The selected locations are referenced to Parkway milepost markers beginning with Milepost 0 at Rockfish Gap in Virginia and ending at Milepost 469 in North Carolina. The letters "PA" represent Picnic Areas.

FLOWER	PEAK BLOOM	MILEPOST LOCATION
Skunk Cabbage (<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>)	Feb-Mar	176.1, 185.8, 217.0
Dandelion (<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>)	Feb-June	Common along roadside.
Dwarf Iris (<i>Iris verna</i>)	Mar-Apr	260.5
Spring Beauty (<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i>)	Mar-Apr	Craggy PA
Mayapple (<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>)	Mar-Apr	76.2-76.4, 296-297, 351-317, 320.8, 339.5
Serviceberry-Sarvis (<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>)	Mar-May	241-242, 294-297, 308.3 347.6, 368-370
Silver-Bell Tree (<i>Halesia carolina</i>)	Mar-May	344.1-355.3
Birdfoot Violet (<i>Viola pedata</i>)	Mar-May	147.4, 202, 260.5, 379
Buttercups (<i>Ranunculus hispidus</i>)	Mar-June	Common along roadside.
Wild Strawberry (<i>Fragaria virginiana</i>)	Mar-June	Common along roadside.
Crested Dwarf Iris (<i>Iris cristata</i>)	Apr-May	195, 198, 210, 217, 250.8 273.4, 379
Squirrel Corn (<i>Dicentra canadensis</i>)	Apr-May	Craggy PA, 458.2- Heintooga Spur Rd.
Tuliptree (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>)	Apr-May	Common in low woods and coves.
Indian Paintbrush (<i>Castilleja coccinea</i>)	Apr-May	369-371
Great Chickweed (<i>Stellaria pubera</i>)	Apr-May	Common in rich, moist woods.
Solomon's Seal (<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>)	Apr-May	Common on moist wooded slopes and coves.
Fringed Phacelia (<i>Phacelia fimbriata</i>)	Apr-May	370-375
Bloodroot (<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>)	Apr-May	85.6, 191-193, 198.7,294
Princess Tree (<i>Paulownia tomentosa</i>)	Apr-May	100-123, 381-382, 396, 400
Golden Groundsel (<i>Senecio aureus</i>)	Apr-May	29.1, 85.8 PA, 330-340
Pinxter Flower (<i>Rhododendron nudiflorum</i>)	Apr-May	4, 92-97, 138.6, 145.5, 154.5 PA, 162.9, 211.6, 217-222, 350- 351, 412-423
Heal All (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>)	Apr-frost	Common along roadside.

Trillium (<i>Trillium spp.</i>)	Apr-May	175, 200-216, 339-340 364.6
Fetterbush (<i>Leucothoe racemosa</i>)	Late Apr-May	241.1, 379
Redbud (<i>Ceria canadensis</i>)	Late Apr-May	54-68
Dutchman's Breeches (<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>)	Apr-June	367.6 PA, 458.2- Heintooga Spur Rd.
Foam Flower (<i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>)	Apr-June	296.9, 339.5, 367.7 PA
False Soloman's Seal (<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>)	Apr-June	Common along roadside.
Black Locust (<i>Robinia pseudo-acacia</i>)	Apr-June	100-123, 367-368, 383
Witch hobble-Hobblebush (<i>Viburnum alnifolium</i>)	Apr-June Aug (fruit)	295.5, 362-367, higher elevations in rich, moist woods
Carolina Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron minus</i>)	Late Apr-June	308-310, 404-411
Dogwood (<i>Cornus florida</i>)	May	6, 85.8 PA, 154.5 PA, 230-232, 217-219, 378-382
Large Flowered Trillium (<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>)	May	3-7, 64-85, 154.5 PA, 168-169, 175, 330-340, 370-375
Fraser Magnolia (<i>Magnolia fraseri</i>)	May	173-174, 252-253
Bluets (<i>Houstonia spp.</i>)	May-June	200.2, 355-368 PA
Field Hawkweed (<i>Hieracium pratense</i>)	May-June	6, 78.4, 165.5, 229.5, 325-330
Wild Geranium (<i>Geranium maculatum</i>)	May-June	84-86, 170-172, 211.6, 375
Hawthorne (<i>Crataegus spp.</i>)	May-June	155-176, 365.6, 368
Small's Groundsel (<i>Senecio smallii</i>)	May-June	29.1, 85.8 PA, 330-340
Bristly Locust (<i>Robinia hispida</i>)	May-June	167-174, 308.3, 347.9
Pinkshell (<i>Rhododendron vaseyi</i>)	May-June	305.2, 342-343, 349-351, 419-424
Red Berried Elder (<i>Sambucus pubens</i>)	May-June	355-360, 369, 412-425, higher elevations in rich, moist woods
Flame Azalea (<i>Rhododendron calendulaceum</i>)	May-June	138.6, 144-145, 149.5, 164-166, 217-221, 308-310, 368-380, 412- 423
Fire Pink (<i>Silene virginica</i>)	May-June	1-2, 85.8 PA, 154.5 PA, 241 PA, 339.3 PA, 367-375, 404-408
Allegheny Blackberry (<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i>)	May-June	6, 167.2, 239.9, 305-315, 339.5, 367.6 PA
Staghorn Sumac (<i>Rhus typhina</i>)	May-June	Common along roadside in dry, rocky areas.
Bowman's Root (<i>Gillenia trifoliata</i>)	May-June	24-45, 149.5, 260, 332, 368-369
Bead Lily (<i>Clintonia umbellulata</i>)	May-June	Common in rich, moist deciduous woods.
New Jersey Tea (<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>)	May-June	42-43, 91-100, 138.4, 197 211, 241, 328.6
Dodder or Love Vine (<i>Cuscuta rostrata</i>)	Aug-Sep	Common along roadside.
Spiraea (<i>Spiraea japonica</i>)	June-July	368-378

Bittersweet (<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>)	May-June	242.4, 383, 394, 396
Galax (<i>Galax aphylla</i>)	Aug-Sep (berry) May-July	Common in deciduous forests, open rocky areas.
Fly Poison (<i>Amianthium muscaetoxicum</i>)	May-July	210-216, 406-408
Phlox (<i>Phlox carolina</i>)	May-July	4, 79-82, 163-164, 200-202 219-221, 339.3 PA, 370-380
Columbine (<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>)	May-July	74-75, 339.3 PA, 370-378
Bladder Campion (<i>Silene cucubalus</i>)	May-Aug	376-381
Queen Anne's Lace (<i>Daucus carota</i>)	May-Sep	Common along open fields and roadside.
Virginia Spiderwort (<i>Tradescantia subaspera</i>)	Late May-July	85.8 Sharp Top Trail, 380-381
Mountain Laurel (<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>)	Late May-June	130.5, 162.9, 347.9, 380, 400
Catawba Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron catawbiense</i>)	June	44.9, 77-83, 130.5, 138.6, 239 247, 266.8, 348-350, 364.1
Viper's Bugloss (<i>Echium vulgare</i>)	June	5-40
Sundrop (<i>Oenothera fruticosa</i>)	June	8-10, 89-91, 229, 270.6, 351- 352, 355-360, 370-375
Tree of Heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>)	June Sep-Oct (berry)	382, common along roadside in Virginia.
Goat's Beard (<i>Aruncus dioicus</i>)	June	10-11, 24, 240, 337.6, 370-375
Butterfly Weed (<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>)	June-Aug	63-65, 238-246
Beard-Tongue (<i>Penstemon spp.</i>)	June-July	44.4, 89-91, 154.5 PA, 254.5, 339-340, 370-372
American Elder (<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>)	June-July	29, 85.8 PA, 136-138, 272-275 311.2
Fragrant Thimbleberry (<i>Rubus odoratus</i>)	June-July	18, 74.7, 339.3 PA, 369-372, 406-408
White Rhododendron (<i>Rhododendron maximum</i>)	June-July	162.9, 169 PA, 232-233, 339.3 PA, 352-353, 455-456
Sourwood (<i>Oxydendrum arboreum</i>)	June-July	102-106, 231-232, 321-327, 375-380
Mountain Ash (<i>Sorbus americana</i>)	June-July (bloom) Sep-Oct (berry)	Higher elevation spruce-fir forests, Mt. Mitchell, Mt. Pisgah
False Hellebore (<i>Veratrum viride</i>)	June-Aug	364.6, Craggy Gardens Nature Trails.
Deptford Pink (<i>Dianthus armeria</i>)	June-Aug	Common along grassy roadsides.
Coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis pubescens</i>)	June-Aug	29.6, 77, 157, 190, 306
Butter and Eggs (<i>Linaria vulgaris</i>)	June-Aug	Common along roadsides and waste places.
Turkscap Lily (<i>Lilium superbum</i>)	June-Aug	187.6, 364-368, 406-411
Mullein (<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>)	June-Sep	Common along roadside on dry banks.
Bull Thistle (<i>Carduus lanceolatus</i>)	Late June-frost	Common along roadsides and pastures at lower elevations.
Black Cohosh (<i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i>)	July	6, 85.8 PA, 169 PA, 374

Tall Meadow-Rue (<i>Thalictrum polygamum</i>)	July	85.8 PA, 155.2, 248
Fleabane (<i>Erigeron strigosus</i>)	July	Common in fields and along roadside.
Ox-Eye Daisy (<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i>)	July	Common in fields and along roadside.
Yarrow (<i>Achillea millefolium</i>)	July	Common in fields and along roadside.
Black-Eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>)	July	Common in fields and along roadside.
Common Milkweed (<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>)	July-Aug	85-86, 167-176
Bergamot Beebalm (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	July-Aug	38.8, 368-374
Tall Coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>)	July-Aug	36, 161.2, 228.1, 314 359-368
Oswego Tea (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	July-Aug	Common in wet areas at higher elevations.
Starry Campion (<i>Silene stellata</i>)	July-Sep	378-380
Bellflower (<i>Campanula americana</i>)	July-Sep	370-375
White Snakeroot (<i>Eupatorium rugosum</i>)	July-Oct	Common along roadside.
Jewel Weed (<i>Impatiens capensis</i>)	Aug	Common along roadside in wet areas.
Boneset (<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>)	Aug	29.1, 85.8 PA, 151, 247, 314
Ironweed (<i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i>)	Aug	245, 248
Joe-Pye-Weed (<i>Eupatorium purpureum</i>)	Aug	6, 85.8 PA, 146, 248, 339.3 PA, 357-359
Pokeberry (<i>Phytolacca americana</i>)	Aug	6, 74.7, 151, 239.9, 323, 376.9
Cardinal Flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	Aug	Infrequently in wet areas.
Virgins Bower (<i>Clematis virginiana</i>)	Aug	13.1, 85.8 PA, 176.1, 285-289, 313-314
Blazing Star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)	Aug-Sep	305.1, 369-370
Sneezeweed (<i>Helenium autumnale</i>)	Aug-Sep	29.1, 85.8 PA, 176.1, 229, 313-314
Angelica (<i>Angelica triquinata</i>)	Aug-Sep	294.7, 339.5, 355, Craggy Gardens Nature Trails
Nodding Lady Tresses (<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>)	Aug-frost	365-368
Gentian (<i>Gentiana quinquefolia</i>)	late Aug-frost	85.8, 363-368
Goldenrod (<i>Solidago spp.</i>)	Sep	Common in fields and along roadside.
Aster (<i>Aster spp.</i>)	Sep	Common in fields and along roadside.
Yellow Ironweed (<i>Actinomeris alternifolia</i>)	Sep-Oct	6, 88, 154.5, 271.9, 330.8
Witch Hazel (<i>Hamamelis virginiana</i>)	Late Sep-Oct	130.5, 293.3, 295.4, 305.1, 308.3, 339.5, 347.6, 367.7