



Blue Ridge Parkway Bloom Calendar

North Carolina and Virginia

The diversity of habitats, elevations, and the north-south orientation of the Parkway reward visitors with an amazing variety of blooming plants. Spring is an especially abundant time for wildflowers, with blooms typically peaking earlier in Virginia due to lower average elevations. This list highlights some of the wildflowers (W), shrubs (S), and trees (T) that bloom along the Parkway, along with approximate bloom times. Tap on the individual common names for an online link to photos in the Plant Gallery.

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Plant | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | Form | Bloom Color | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct |
| Trout Lily | <i>Erythronium americanum</i> | W | yellow | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Spring beauty | <i>Claytonia caroliniana</i> | W | pink | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Bloodroot | <i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> | W | white | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Little brown jug | <i>Hexastylis arifolia</i> | W | purple/brown | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Halberd-leaved yellow violet | <i>Viola hastata</i> | W | yellow | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Trailing arbutus | <i>Epigaea repens</i> | W | pink | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Serviceberry | <i>Amelanchier laevis</i> | T | white | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Eastern redbud | <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | T | pink | • | • | • | | | | | |
| Jack-in-the-pulpit | <i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> | W | green/purple | • | • | • | • | | | | |
| Bluets | <i>Houstonia caerulea</i> | W | blue | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Red trillium/wake robin | <i>Trillium erectum</i> | W | reddish-brown | | • | • | | | | | |
| Virginia bluebell | <i>Mertensia virginica</i> | W | blue/white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Star chickweed | <i>Stelaria pubera</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Squirrel corn | <i>Dicentra canadensis</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Showy orchis | <i>Galearis spectabilis</i> | W | lavender/white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Dwarf crested iris | <i>Iris cristata</i> | W | lavender | | • | • | | | | | |
| Fringed phacelia | <i>Phacelia fimbriata</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Flowering dogwood | <i>Cornus florida</i> | T | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Great white trillium | <i>Trillium grandiflorum</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Dutchman's breeches | <i>Dicentra cucullaria</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| False Solomon's seal | <i>Maianthemum racemosum</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Cut-leaved toothwort | <i>Cardamine concatenata</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Wild geranium | <i>Geranium maculatum</i> | W | pink/purple | | • | • | | | | | |
| Bellwort | <i>Uvularia puberula</i> | W | yellow | | • | • | | | | | |
| Fraser magnolia | <i>Magnolia fraseri</i> | T | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Pinxter flower | <i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i> | S | pink | | • | • | | | | | |
| White baneberry | <i>Actaea pachypoda</i> | W | white | | • | • | | | | | |
| Solomon's seal | <i>Polygonatum biflorum</i> | W | white | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Mayapple | <i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> | W | white | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Carolina sweetshrub | <i>Calycanthus floridus</i> | S | dark red | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Foamflower | <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> | W | white | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Fire pink | <i>Silene virginica</i> | W | red | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Hooked buttercup | <i>Ranunculus recurvatus</i> | W | yellow | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Mountain laurel | <i>Kalmia latifolia</i> | S | white/pink | | • | • | • | | | | |
| Golden ragwort | <i>Packera aurea</i> | W | yellow | | • | • | • | • | | | |
| Pink Lady's slipper | <i>Cypripedium acaule</i> | W | pink | | • | • | • | • | | | |
| Galax | <i>Galax urceolata</i> | W | white | | | • | • | | | | |
| Pipsissewa/Spotted wintergreen | <i>Chimaphila maculata</i> | W | white | | | • | • | | | | |

