

Wisconsin Phenological Society

Department of Geography U.W. Milwaukee
P.O. Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53201
Tel: (414)229-3740 h Fax: (414)229-3981
Email: mds@uwm.edu
Homepage: www.naturenet.com/alnc/wps

Spring 2004 - Newsletter



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WPS Annual Spring Meeting

Please join us for our Annual Spring Meeting
on **Friday, May 7th, 2004**
From **10:00 a.m. until Noon**
Bolton Hall, Room 410D
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Campus

For directions visit: www.uwm.edu/map or email: mds@uwm.edu

Message from the President

Progress on the National Phenological Network (NPN) plan has not moved forward as fast as I had hoped, but we should be able to launch the NPN web page later this year. With the help of the staff of the National Climatic Data Center, we have already completed the first section of the page that makes all lilac phenological data collected in the conterminous USA from 1956-2003 available to the public. This part of the page has a map that enables the user to click on a location of interest within the country and then see what stations and data are available in that area. A second section of the page will also have a map with state and eco-region boundaries that the user can click on to get suggestions of appropriate native plant species to observe in their area. This section of the page will include instructions of how to take observations, a system

to allow an observer to register and report observations over the web, request cloned lilac plants, and eventually view pictures of the various plants and their phenological stages. I am hopeful that once the NPN web page is launched, that a wide variety of observers, from local enthusiasts to professional scientists will be encouraged to “do phenology” and share their observations with others through the page.

I'd also like to announce the publication (by Kluwer Academic Publishers) of the approximately 600-page volume “Phenology: An Integrative Environmental Science” last October, for which I served as editor. With thirty-three chapters produced by a group of more than fifty phenological experts, this book is a synthesis of current phenological knowledge, designed as a primer on the field for global change and general scientists, students, and interested members of the public. Unfortunately, the publishers are charging a very high price for the book (something I had no control over), but it will be available at many university libraries, and perhaps even a few local public libraries.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you that your observations are extremely useful to the scientific community. Please consider becoming a fully active member of the Society, by recording and reporting phenological observations. As always, your support of the Society and its objectives is greatly appreciated.

Mark D. Schwartz

President

2004 Natural History Workshops

at the UWM Field Station

*The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Field Station
conducts a series of Natural History Workshops.*

These workshops offer an opportunity to study focused topics at college-level instruction under the guidance of noted authorities. Most workshops present two full days of instruction, with housing and meals available at the Station.

Enrollment is limited to 20; the atmosphere is informal and instruction is individualized. Workshops may be taken for graduate or undergraduate credit by enrolling in UWM, Topics in Field Biology.

Please contact the Field Station for more information and a registration form, or visit our website at www.uwm.edu/Dept/fieldstation for full descriptions of each course, fee information, and a downloadable Registration Form.

The 2004 workshop schedule includes the following courses:

Field Herpetology: Identification of Wisconsin Amphibians and Reptiles

Instructor: Josh Kapfer

4 & 5 June (Friday & Saturday)

Vegetation of Wisconsin

Instructor: James Reinartz

June 14-19 (Monday—Saturday)

Common and Nuisance Algae

Instructor: Craig Sandgren

9 & 10 July (Friday & Saturday)

Plant-Insect Interactions: Ecology and Evolution

Instructor: Gretchen Meyer

23 & 24 July (Friday & Saturday)

Grasses: Identification and Ecology

Instructor: Robert Freckmann

30 & 31 July (Friday & Saturday)

Natural History and Identification of Common Wisconsin Butterflies and Moths

Instructor: Susan Borkin

13 & 14 August (Friday & Saturday)

To Register:

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Field Station

3095 Blue Goose Road

Saukville, WI 53080

Phone: 262 675-6844

Fax: 262 675-0337

email: fieldstn@uwm.edu

www.uwm.edu/Dept/fieldstation

Phenology on the World Wide Web

The world wide web is full of phenological possibilities. Check out the following links:

- [WPS Website](#)
- [Phenology in the classroom](#) - *Journey North*
- [Phenology for children and families](#) - *DNR's EEK! Website*
- [Resources for educators & families throughout Wisconsin](#) - *Nature Net*

Membership Information

Please support the Phenological Society's objectives by paying annual dues or becoming a life member. Annual dues are used primarily to defray the mailing cost of our Newsletter.

Please send your name, address, and which of the following actions you would like to take:

- **\$2 for 2004/05 dues**
- **\$___ as further contribution to the work of the Society**
- **\$50 Lifetime Membership**
- **Please delete my name from the membership list**
- **Please send me information regarding programs of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters**

Please send to:

Nancy Dernehl, Treasurer
Wisconsin Phenological Society
UWC—Waukesha
1500 University Drive
Waukesha, WI 53186